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Use of tilapia, *Oreochromis mossambicus*, for the control of mosquito breeding in water storage tanks in the Jaffna district

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Abstract: Mosquito-borne diseases such as dengue, chikungunya and malaria are of great health importance in Jaffna district. The use of larvivorous fish is perceived as an environmentally sound measure to control mosquitoes. A pilot study was conducted in the field using *Oreochromis mossambicus* was carried out to evaluate the feeding affinity of *Aedes* and *Anopheles* larvae. In the laboratory studies, *O. mossambicus* showed a higher feeding affinity for *Aedes* than either *Anopheles* or artificial fish diet. The feeding rate of 239.7 for *Aedes*, the fish having 2.9 g body weight. In the field trial, the introduction of *O. mossambicus* into water storage tanks proved to be effective in controlling mosquito breeding.

within 3 days.

Key words: [Aedes aegypti](#), [Anopheles subpictus](#), [Jaffna](#), [larvivo control](#), [Oreochromis mossambicus](#), [Sri Lanka](#), [water storage tank](#)

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