

A NEW SPECIES OF CULEX (NEOCULEX) FROM CAMBODIA^{1, 2}

(DIPTERA: CULICIDAE)

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ABSTRACT—*Culex (Neoculex) richei*, n. sp., from Bokor Hills, Cambodia, is described and illustrated.

Culex (Neoculex) richei, n. sp.

This new species is based on a single male specimen which, however, is easily separable from other species of *Neoculex* from Southeast Asia in having the palpus longer and in the terminalia as described below.

MALE. *Head*. Antenna plumose; proboscis brown with an apparent joint a little beyond half the distance from base; palpus brown and straight, uniformly slender and thin, its length about 0.8 of the length of the proboscis, terminal segment bears 5 or 6 hairs apically; decumbent scales of vertex golden brown and fine on occiput, pale and broader posterolaterally; erect scales dark brown. *Thorax*. Integument of the scutum brown, covered with fine golden brown scales; integument of pleuron uniformly brown without scales; 1 lower mesepimeral bristle present. *Wings*. Without any distinct features. *Legs*. All legs uniformly dark scaled. *Abdomen*. Terga and sterna uniformly dark brown. *Terminalia*. (fig. 1-3). Basimere with 4 gently curved submarginal setae in a line parallel to the tergomesal margin; subapical lobe of basimere with 3 strong proximal rods, which are subequal in length, the proximal one slightly enlarged and hooked apically; the other two thinner, gently curved and hooked apically, followed by 3 thin and small setae, 3 slender rodlike-setae with round apices and a large flattened seta with serrate dorsal margin; laterally with a broad acuminate leaflet and a long curved seta (fig. 2); distimere slender; lateral plate of phallosome simple and globose with 20 to 25 denticles; proctiger well developed, crowned with a tuft of strong and dark spines and with 2 cercal setae; basal sternal process not developed; tergum IX as shown in fig. 3.

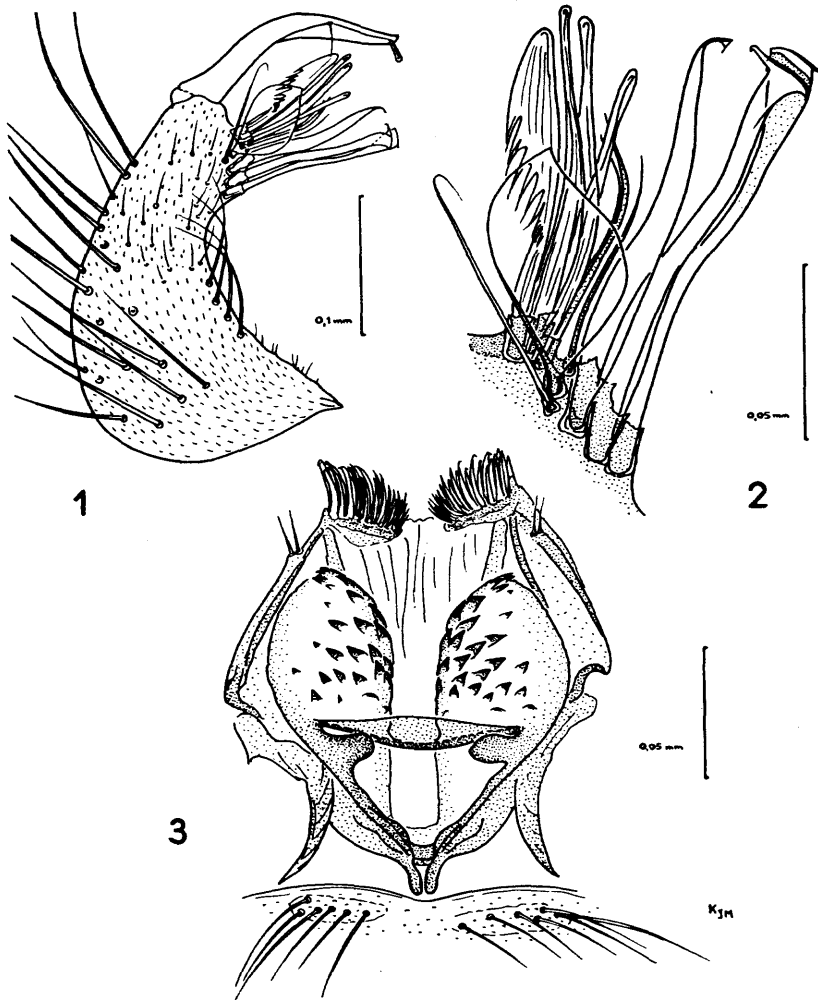
FEMALE, LARVA and PUPA. Unknown.

TYPE DATA. Holotype male (456) with slide of terminalia, Popork Vil, in the Bokor Hills, *Kampot Province*, CAMBODIA, 24 February 1969, J. M. Klein, *legit*, deposition, USNM. This species is named in honor of Dr. Armand Riche, Médecin Général, Professor at the Faculty of Medicine of Phnom-Penh.

DISTRIBUTION. Cambodia.

¹ This work was supported in part by the Southeast Asia Mosquito Project (SEAMP) through Research Contract No. DA-46-193-MD-2672 from the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command, Office of the Surgeon General, Washington, D.C. 20314.

² Immediate publication secured by full payment of page charges.—Ed.



Figs. 1-3. *Culex (Neoculex) richei*, n. sp., male terminalia: 1, basimere; 2, subapical lobe of basimere; 3, phallosome, paraprocts and tergite IX.

TAXONOMIC DISCUSSION. The male of *richei* is easily distinguished from those of its nearest allies *brevipalpis* (Giles) 1902 and *tenuipalpis* Barraud 1924, by the characters of the palpus and terminalia. *C. brevipalpis* has a twisted palpus which is $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ the length of the proboscis and that of *tenuipalpis* is slightly greater than half the length of the proboscis, but not noticeably twisted (Bram, 1967:25-31). *C. richei* is further characterized by the presence of 4 submarginal

setae on the basimere and by some significant structural details the subapical lobe and phallosome, the lateral plate of the phallosome of *richei* is, however, rather similar to that of *tenuipalpis*.

BIOLOGY. Breeding habitat unknown. The single male was collected resting between rocks along a torrent in forested mountains, at an altitude of about 850 m.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author is indebted to Drs. Botha de Meillon and S. Sirivanakarn of the Southeast Asia Mosquito Project, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. for confirming the identity of this new species, and for reviewing the manuscript for publication and seeing it through the press.

REFERENCE

- Bram, A.** 1967. Contributions to the Mosquito Fauna of Southeast Asia. II. The genus *Culex* in Thailand (Diptera: Culicidae). Contr. Am. Ent. Inst. 2(1): 1-296.