

AN INNOVATIVE HOLISTIC APPROACH TO CONTROL MOSQUITOES WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO MOSQUITO VECTORS

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Existence of mosquitoes on this planet has been noted since ancient time. Currently around 3000 species of mosquitoes are known to occur through out the globe and they are involved in the transmission of dreaded diseases like malaria, filariasis, dengue, Japanese encephalitis, yellow fever and Chikungunya. Control of mosquitoes has always been a daunting task and the advent of DDT in mid 1950s and its wide scale use along with other insecticides brighten the hope but the euphoria of success was short lived and mosquitoes started developing resistance against most of the commonly used insecticides. In recent few years, the emphasis is now being given on integrated control of mosquitoes with the inclusion of source reduction, minor engineering methods, health education, community participation and biological control methods and this has proved successful in certain situations. With the availability of lot of information in the area of genes and genomics and application of new molecular biotechnological tools along with the use of Geographical Information System (GIS) and Remote Sensing, it is expected that mosquitoes can be controlled in better ways than ever before.
