

A NEW SPECIES OF CULEX (NEOCULEX) FROM CAMBODIA<sup>1,2</sup>

(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.

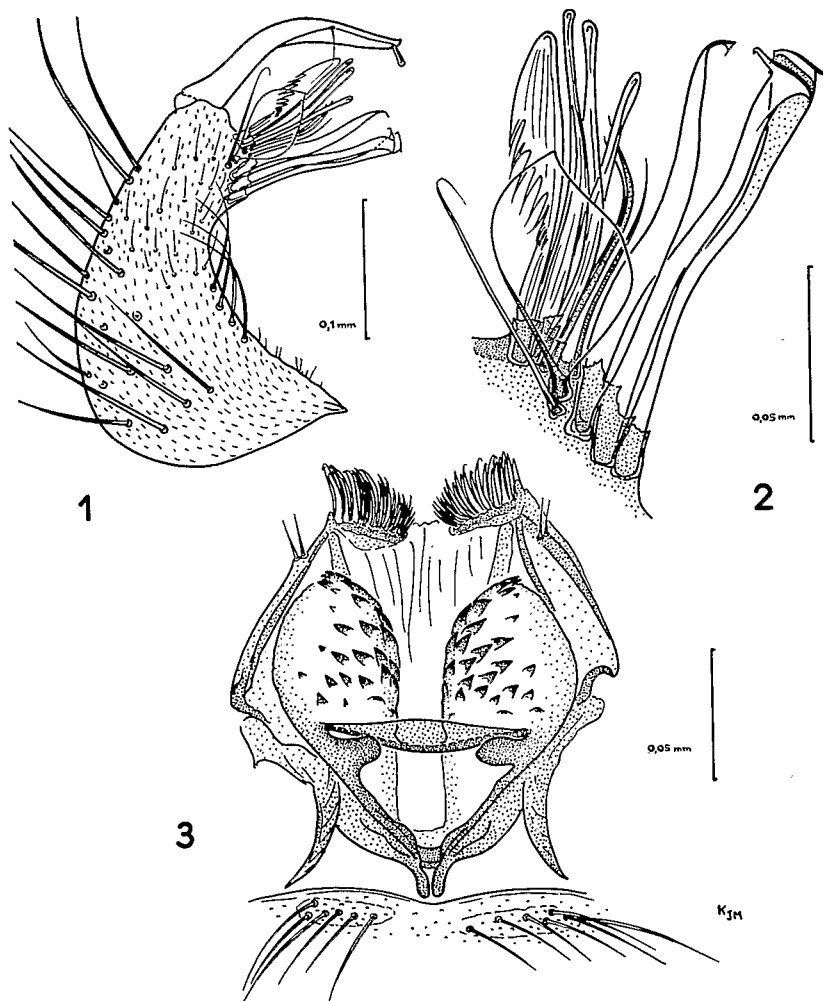
FEMALE, LARVA and PUPA. Unknown.

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.

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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.

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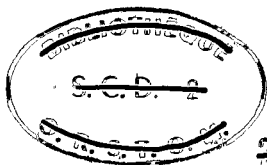
#### REFERENCE

- 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.

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