

The Furvela tent-trap Mk 1.1 for the collection of outdoor biting mosquitoes

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Outdoor transmission of malaria and other vector borne diseases remains a problem. The WHO has recently recognized the need for suitable methods for assessing vector density outdoors and a number of tent-traps have been developed. Only one such trap, the Furvela tent-trap, does not require an 'entry' behavior on the part of the mosquito. It remains the cheapest and lightest tent-trap described. It takes less than two minutes to install and is the only trap that uses readily available components. Here we describe recent modifications to the trap, which make it even easier to set up in the field, provide a standard operating procedure (SOP) and describe some recent experiments examining the effect of the addition of light and door placement to working of the trap. The trap provides the closest approximation to CDC light-traps, widely used to collect indoor biting mosquitoes. This enables the effect of both indoor and outdoor interventions on mosquito density and behavior to be determined.

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20 **Abstract**

21 Outdoor transmission of malaria and other vector borne diseases remains a problem. The

22 WHO has recently recognized the need for suitable methods for assessing vector density

23 outdoors and a number of tent-traps have been developed. Only one such trap, the Furvela

24 tent-trap, does not require an 'entry' behaviour on the part of the mosquito and therefore

25 approximates most closely to human landing catches (without the associated risks). It

26 remains the cheapest and lightest tent-trap available, takes less than two minutes to install,

27 and is the only trap that uses readily available components. Here we describe recent

28 modifications to the trap, which make it even easier to set up in the field, provide a standard
29 operating procedure (SOP), and describe experiments examining the effect of the addition of
30 light and door placement to the working of the trap. In conjunction with CDC light-traps used
31 to collect indoor biting mosquitoes the effect of both indoor and outdoor interventions on
32 mosquito density and behaviour can be determined.

33

34 **Introduction**

35

36 With the current drive to eliminate malaria, worldwide reductions in the disease have
37 occurred (Bhatt et al., 2015), and according to the WHO the incidence of the disease, which
38 takes into account population growth, is estimated to have decreased by 37% between 2000
39 and 2015 (WHO, 2016).

40 This success has highlighted the challenges that remain, in particular the control and
41 elimination of residual outdoor transmission not controlled by long lasting insecticide
42 treated nets (LLIN) or Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) with insecticide. Whilst the monitoring
43 of indoor transmission remains important, outdoor transmission needs to be assessed.
44 Indeed, at the 70th World Health Assembly in May 2017, WHO Member States expressed
45 strong support for the strategic approach proposed in the Global Vector Response 2017-
46 2030 which states that: 'Assessments of vector populations should use up-to-date methods
47 and techniques to ensure that results are informative for guiding and assessing vector
48 control. Of particular need are robust indicators for vector-borne disease risk, especially in
49 low transmission settings, and methods for assessing vector behaviour such as mosquito
50 outdoor biting.' (WHO, 2016). Although it is malaria vectors that are of primary concern,

51 many other outdoor biting (exophagic) mosquitoes are potential vectors of pathogens,
52 including a number of 'emerging' diseases.

53

54 The objective of monitoring outdoor biting would be to assess vector species composition,
55 abundance, and the time and place of biting. The primary requisites of such methods are
56 that they catch mosquitoes which would normally bite people outside, using simple and
57 inexpensive equipment. Outdoor exposure, at least in the evening, is best measured in
58 human landing collections (HLC), in which mosquitoes are caught attempting to bite the
59 exposed lower legs of collectors sitting outside, as this is usual behaviour. HLC have been
60 used extensively in the past, largely to sample malaria vectors (Silver, 1998). Such
61 collections, however, require considerable supervision and impose risks to the collectors
62 since mosquitoes may be able to inject pathogens before being caught.

63

64 In a number of studies commercially available Centre for Disease Control (CDC) light-traps
65 have been used outdoors because they do not expose people to mosquito bites, are widely
66 available and cheap to run (Githeko et al., 1994, Constantini et al., 1998, Cooke et al., 2015).
67 Whilst operationally practical, evidence from these studies suggests that they do not
68 adequately sample the outdoor biting fraction of malaria vectors (Fornadel, Norris and
69 Norris, 2010). Thus, Costantini *et al.*, (1998) reported no significant correlation between
70 *Anopheles gambiae* s.l., HLC outdoors and outdoor CDC light-traps, and density-dependent
71 correlation in the case of *Anopheles funestus*. Cooke *et al.* (2015) attempted to measure the
72 outdoor biting fraction of the population by employing a CDC light-trap hung adjacent to an
73 occupied, open-sided rain shelter constructed from a domed one-man tent, but concluded

74 that such traps were a 'limitation' of their study. Other traps, notably the MM-X trap (Njiru
75 et al., 2006) and more recently the 'Suna' trap (Homan et al., 2016) have been developed to
76 catch outdoor biting mosquitoes but they do not provide an easily quantifiable estimate of
77 exposure, nor are they cheap or easily available.

78 Tent-traps are the simplest alternative solution. DeMeillon (1934) first used tent-traps to
79 collect *An. gambiae* s.l. in South Africa. He used a plastic gazebo, tall enough to allow people
80 to stand inside it, which had openings cut close to the roof that mimicked the eaves in a
81 house. Collectors stood inside the gazebo (their breath and odour attracting mosquitoes) and
82 collected them from the inside walls when the insects were inter-current resting (Mattingly,
83 1965). Thus, this was more akin to a moveable experimental hut than a trap for collecting
84 outdoor biting mosquitoes.

85 More recently a number of other tent-traps have been developed (Charlwood, 2005, Govella
86 et al., 2009, Krajacich et al. 2014). All but one, however, are similar to the gazebo of DeMeillon
87 in that they require an 'entry' behaviour on the part of the mosquitoes for them to be caught.
88 The usefulness of these tent-traps is limited because not all mosquitoes go inside houses and,
89 as pointed out by Gillies (1974) 'the effectiveness of a baited trap for a particular species of
90 fly primarily depends on its responses to the trapping device in the presence of the attractant
91 stimuli used'.

92 The 'Furvela' tent-trap catches mosquitoes before they enter the tent, it is therefore likely to
93 sample the 'true' outdoor fraction of the population. The trap remains the most
94 straightforward, lightest and cheapest tent-trap available. It is the only trap that is made
95 from commercially available 'off the shelf' components, including the tent itself. Collections
96 in the Furvela tent-trap are closely correlated to CDC light-trap collections used to monitor

97 indoor biting mosquitoes (Govella et al., 2009, Charlwood et al., 2011, 2012), this makes it
98 especially useful for the measurement of changes in indoor/outdoor ratios following the
99 application of methods to control indoor biting mosquitoes. Since changing the collection
100 bag is easy with the Furvela tent-trap it is also possible to examine the biting profile of the
101 mosquitoes throughout the night as was done previously in Ghana (Charlwood et al., 2011).
102 The trap has been used to make the first map of the spatial variation in outdoor biting
103 densities of mosquitoes (Charlwood et al., 2013) and has recently been used to evaluate an
104 intervention that targeted outdoor biting mosquitoes in Cambodia (Charlwood et al., 2016).
105 Presently they are being used to monitor outdoor biting mosquitoes over a 950km² area in
106 40 villages in Kagera Province, Tanzania.
107 Since its initial description (Charlwood 2005, Govella et al., 2009) the trap has undergone a
108 number of modifications which make it even easier to set up in the field, but do not affect its
109 basic operation. Here we describe these modifications and discuss some recent experiments,
110 including an examination of the effect that the addition of a light to the trap and the effect
111 that door position relative to the sleepers' head has on numbers caught. We supply evidence
112 that the trap does indeed catch outdoor biting mosquitoes and provide a Standard Operating
113 Procedure (SOP) on how to set the trap up in the field.

114 **Methods**

115
116 The basic principle of the Furvela trap is that host odour and exhaled gases emanating from
117 a gap, the diameter of a CDC trap, in the predominantly closed door of the tent are sucked
118 into a CDC trap (without the light, lid or grid) placed, outside the tent, horizontally between
119 2 to 3cms from the opening in the door. On approach to the opening the insects are sucked

120 into the trap and held in the standard CDC trap conical collection bag. The suction from the
121 fan effectively prevents any mosquitoes from entering the tent, even at very high densities,
122 so that the sleeper is only exposed if they leave it for some reason. As originally described
123 (Charlwood, 2007, Govella et al., 2013) the setting up of the trap was slightly awkward.
124 Recent improvements to the original trap include the following (Fig 1 A -F):

125 A. *The opening is more easily standardised.* For this the sides of the tent are sewn back
126 rather than being folded back by clips (although clips can still serve). In addition
127 to standardising the opening, sewing it makes it more difficult for the tent to be
128 zipped up.

129 B. *Attaching the trap is easier.* A small hole is made, using hot wire, in the Perspex
130 close to the top of the CDC trap. Short (6-7 cm) lengths of the same wire are
131 threaded through these holes and medium sized folding-clips attached. The clips
132 are used to attach the trap to the tent.

133 C. *A cover over the collection bag allows collections to continue in the rain.* The
134 collection bag has a rain cover (that attaches to the body of the trap with Velcro
135 or a rubber band) sewn over the top half of the net.

136 D. *Supporting the collection bag is easier.* Two eyelets are sewn into the bottom of the
137 bag to facilitate attachment.

138 E. *An external support for the collection bag is no longer required.* The bag is now
139 supported in place by two guy ropes, thus eliminating the need for an external
140 support for the bag. Some tents (e.g. the Hoolie Wildcountry) already have these
141 guy ropes available. They generally are otherwise not difficult to attach to other
142 tents

143 F. *A footprint facilitates usage.* Although not mandatory, we find that a plastic sheet
144 ('footprint') under the tent and up to the edge of the collection bag prevents holes
145 in the bottom of the tent and may reduce exposure of the collected mosquitoes to
146 ants.

147 The Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), (supplementary file 1), shows these
148 modifications in more detail. The installation of the trap can be seen in the video:
149 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=irgBPrDQ2Pw>. When not in use as a tent-trap
150 the CDC trap can easily be reconverted to a standard light-trap without the need to
151 remove the clips (which hang outside of the trap body).

152 A series of experiments were undertaken to determine the relationship between different
153 indoor trapping types with the tent-trap and to investigate possible procedures that might
154 increase the efficiency of the trap. The experiments took place in Kyamyorwa village, located
155 on an inlet of Lake Victoria, in Kagera Province, northern Tanzania before and after an
156 intervention to control malaria was undertaken in the village. The intervention included
157 indoor residual spraying of insecticide for the control of post-prandial insects and the
158 introduction of long-lasting insecticidal nets for the control of biting insects. Indoor walls of
159 houses in the village were sprayed with pirimiphos-methyl (Actellic) and an LLIN
160 incorporating permethrin and the synergist piperonyl butoxide (PBO) were distributed to
161 residents in February 2015.

162 In addition to CDC light-traps, exit window-traps are another possible proxy for exposure
163 indoors. The number of mosquitoes collected from a 50x50x50cm, netting sided, window-
164 trap (Silver, 1998) that covered the only window of a bedroom occupied by two adults was
165 compared to the number collected in a tent-trap 20m from the house occupied by a single

166 sleeper. The tent-trap was operated twice a week and window-trap collections were
167 undertaken on a daily basis over a nine-week period in Kyamyorwa. Mean numbers per
168 trapping method per ISO week were compared using Pearson's correlation in Excel
169 (supplementary file 2, [peerj-16725-Kyamyorwa_hse_2_window_tent_-1.xlsx](#)).

170

171 In order to feed inside a house mosquitoes need to enter through relatively small openings
172 (such as the gap between the eaves and the roof). Not all species of mosquito will do this and
173 so these species are mainly caught biting outdoors. One way of determining if the Furvela
174 tent-trap catches outdoor biting mosquitoes is to determine if these mosquitoes are caught
175 in the trap. We, therefore, compared the species ratios of mosquitoes collected indoors with
176 CDC light-traps or window-traps with outdoor collections in the tent-trap in different
177 situations. In order to determine if the numbers collected varied in the same manner during
178 the night, mosquitoes were removed from the window trap at four hourly intervals (22:00,
179 02:00 and 06:00), whilst at the same time the collection bag on the tent-trap was changed.

180

181 As part of the Pan African Malaria Vector Research (PAMVERC) trial (Protopopoff et al.,
182 2017) both tent-traps, outdoors, and light-traps, indoors, are being used to sample malaria
183 vectors in the 48 clusters of the trial area. During each round of sampling, the traps are set
184 up for one night in seven randomly selected houses per cluster. Houses for light-trap and
185 tent-trap samples were chosen at random from the census database obtained at the start of
186 the study. During sampling the light-trap was set up in a bedroom at the end of a bed in
187 which someone slept under a mosquito net and, by one house, a tent-trap was set up (and
188 slept in by the PAMVERC entomologist/collector). Collections from the baseline year (2015)

189 were analysed and are presented. Data were entered into a database and analysed with Stata
190 12 (Stata, 2013). Since the data were over-dispersed (the deviance was greater than the
191 mean), differences in mosquito density between the two collection methods (light trap or
192 tent trap) were estimated using negative binomial regression. Standard errors were adjusted
193 to allow for within-cluster correlation of responses using robust standard errors.

194

195 Other factors, including number of sleepers, chemical lures, light or the position of the
196 sleepers' head relative to the opening, may affect the efficiency of the trap. Two of these
197 variables were investigated in Kyamyorwa village: the effect of a light source and the effect
198 of door position on the number of mosquitoes captured. The effect of a light source was
199 investigated in a series of collections using four tent-traps in Kyamyorwa (supplementary
200 file 3, [peerj-16725-Light No-Light Tent-Trapping Muleba-1.xls](#))

201 A new moon occurred on June 27 2014 (the start of the experiment) and there was little/no
202 ambient illumination during collection dates, providing optimal experimental conditions.

203 We used 2-door tents for these experiments (the Highlander Glen Orchy 2 Tent ®). A
204 standard tent-trap functioned as a control on one side of the tent while the trap on the other
205 door incorporated an incandescent bulb, as used in the CDC light-trap. The trap with the light
206 was rotated between sides on alternate days. Tent-traps were operated from 21:00h-0630h
207 the following day and were operated from June 30-July 4, 2014. The incidence rate ratio
208 (IRR) and density rate ratio (DRR) were used to compare the relative density of mosquitoes
209 sampled by a tent-trap with light (TT+L) with a standard trap (TT). Variables including
210 collector, collection date, and sampling site were identified as potential confounding factors
211 during univariate analysis and were included in the final regression model.

212

213 Since the trap relies on the breath and odour of the host inside the tent, the relative position
214 of the trap to the hosts head might influence the number of mosquitoes collected. We,
215 therefore, determined if the position of the door (at the side or the front) affected numbers
216 collected. The tents used were the two-door Glenn Orchy Highlander (with doors at the
217 sides) and the Taurus Ultra-light two-man tent (with a single door at the front of the tent).
218 Collectors rotated between tents on alternate nights and the tents were rotated every second
219 day.

220

221 **Ethics**

222 The collections conducted in Tanzania were done as a component of the Pan African Malaria
223 Vector Research Consortium project 'Evaluation of a novel long lasting insecticidal net and
224 indoor residual spray product, separately and together, against malaria transmitted by
225 pyrethroid resistant mosquitoes' which received ethical clearance from the ethics review
226 committees of the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical College (certificate number 781 on
227 16/09/2014), the Tanzanian National Institute for Medical Research (20/08/2014), and the
228 London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (reference 6551 on 24/07/2014). The trial
229 is registered with ClinicalTrials.gov (registration number NCT02288637) on 11/7/2014.
230 Collections from Mozambique were undertaken under the aegis of the joint Instituto
231 Nacional de Saúde (INS)–DBL Centre for Health Research and Development project 'Turning
232 houses into traps for mosquitoes', which obtained ethical clearance from the National
233 Bioethics Committee of Mozambique on 2 April 2001 (ref: 056/CNBS/01).

234 Prior to beginning collections, informal sensitisation sessions were conducted with village
235 members to explain sampling-related activities. Informed consent was obtained from all
236 participants who could withdraw from the study at any time should they wish to do so.

237 **Results**

238 **Indoor outdoor/ratios: Window traps versus Furvela tent-trap**

239 Between 23/10/2014 and 14/3/2015 in the baseline year 70 collections were undertaken
240 from the window trap (only two collections being undertaken in December) and 17 tent trap
241 collections were performed. Changes in population density obtained from the two collection
242 methods were similar ($r = 0.93$, $P = 0.0003$) (Fig 2). Shortly after these collections the house
243 was sprayed and the number in the window-trap fell to zero but numbers in the tent-trap
244 persisted, albeit at a very low density (Fig 2). A larger proportion of the catch was caught in
245 the earlier part of the night in the tent-trap compared to the window-trap ($X^2 = 16.8$, $df=3$, P
246 $= 0.01$) although, for both collections, most insects were caught in the middle hours of the
247 night.

248 *Anopheles gambiae* was caught in approximately equal numbers from window-trap and tent-
249 trap whilst other species including *Coquilletidia fuscopennata*, *Mansonia spp.* and *Culex spp.*
250 were collected in greater numbers in the tent-trap compared to the window-trap (Fig 3).
251 Comparable results, between CDC light-trap and Furvela tent-traps, were obtained during
252 the first year of the PAMVERC trial when 34,092 mosquitoes were collected from 3,395 light-
253 trap collections and 495 tent-traps (Table 1).

254

255 A similar implication comes from the redrawn data from Massavasse in Mozambique, where
256 144,317 mosquitoes were collected from 2,551 light-trap and 94,354 from 776 tent-trap
257 collections (Fig 4) (Charlwood et al., 2013). In Massavasse only *An. funestus* and *Culex* spp.
258 (mostly *Cx. quinquefasciatus*) were caught in greater numbers indoors compared to the other
259 species shown in the figure. Following the application of the insecticide, bendiocarb, to the
260 interior walls of houses in the village a greater proportion of the collection of all species,
261 including the exophagic ones, was obtained in tent-traps (Fig 4).

262 **Effect of light on numbers collected**

263 Thirty-two collections (standard tent-trap (TT) n=16, and tent-trap+light (TT+L) n=16)
264 were performed. A total of 180 *An. gambiae*, 104 *Mansonia* spp., 195 *Cq. fuscopennata* and,
265 140 *Culex* spp. were collected over a 4-day period. Data fit a negative binomial distribution.
266 Surprisingly, the TT+L caught significantly fewer *Anopheles* females than the TT (Adjusted-
267 IRR=0.56, $P<0.001$) (Table 2).

268 **Effects of door position on numbers collected**

269 The rate ratio of the total number of *Anopheles* captured [IRR 1.05, 95% CI (0.52 – 2.12),
270 $P=0.9$] after 16 collections was not significantly different between the tents, when
271 differences in host attractiveness were taken into account. The IRR of the total number of all
272 mosquitoes captured [IRR 0.92, (95% C.I. 0.50 – 1.68), $P=0.77$] was also not significantly
273 different between the tents, when differences in host attractiveness were accounted for.
274 Thus, door position does not affect the efficiency of the trap (Supplementary file [peerj-16725-](#)
275 [Light_No-Light_Tent-Trapping_Muleba-1.xls](#)).

276 Discussion

277

278 The best way of determining whether the Furvela trap really does sample outdoor biting
279 (exophagic) mosquitoes is by comparing HLC with tent-trap samples. Since mosquitoes may
280 transmit pathogens before being caught by the collectors, this makes it difficult for HLC to
281 be used for sampling, even though a comparison between the two collection methods would
282 be useful. In order to determine the density of potential vectors outdoors suitable
283 alternative methods for the collection of mosquitoes are required. Mosquitoes are attracted
284 to different humans at different rates. Indeed, this differential attraction may also differ by
285 species (Knols et al., 1995). This is a problem that affects any trapping technique, including
286 HLC, that relies on the attraction of mosquitoes to a human. Despite this caveat, the Furvela
287 tent-trap is an alternative to HLC. In studies from Tanzania *An. gambiae* was caught in
288 approximately equal numbers from window-trap and tent-trap. Other species, including *Cq.*
289 *fuscopennata* and *Mansonia spp.* were collected in greater numbers in the tent-trap
290 compared to the window-trap. The greater diversity of species collected in Furvela tent-
291 traps, from a number of study sites, compared to the diversity from indoor collections,
292 especially CDC light-traps, indicates that it adequately samples outdoor biting mosquitoes
293 (Govella et al., 2009, Charlwood et al., 2012). A pairing of either a CDC light-trap or window-
294 trap (used to collect endophagic mosquitoes) with a Furvela tent-trap (to collect exophagic
295 ones) enables the effect of environmental perturbations or interventions to be determined.
296 The data obtained to date with the tent-trap confirm that arbovirus vectors, like *Cq.*
297 *fuscopenata* or *Mansonia spp.*, bite predominantly, but not exclusively, outdoors. Among
298 malaria vectors the members of the *An. gambiae* complex tend to be collected in equal
299 numbers in tent and light-traps. *Anopheles funestus* have generally been caught in light-traps

300 at higher rates compared to tent-traps, confirming their endophilic status. Whether the
301 apparent change from endophilic and endophagic behaviour to exophagic behaviour in *An.*
302 *funestus* following IRS in Massavasse was because the insects entering the house were killed
303 before being caught in the light-trap, or because they refrained from entering in the first
304 place, remains unknown and merits further investigation.

305

306 Mosquito populations, as assessed by indoor collections with CDC light-traps, are often
307 considered to be temporally unpredictable. This may be due to environmental factors, such
308 as rainfall, that may affect the proportion of the population biting indoors (and so available
309 for capture by the light-trap). For example, in Ghana a greater proportion of the night's catch
310 of *An. coluzzii* were collected indoors on rainy nights (Charlwood et al., 2011). The total
311 collected in paired indoor light-trap and outdoor tent-trap collections was, however, not
312 different from the number expected. Subsequently the collections returned to the
313 anticipated ratios. In order to control for potential changes in the proportion of the mosquito
314 population biting indoors or outdoors, studies assessing mosquito population dynamics
315 should include simultaneous indoor and outdoor collections. Such paired collections may
316 reduce some of the noise in such data making it more amenable to analysis.

317 Vector control plays a big part in current efforts to eliminate malaria. As a result, mosquito
318 densities may become very low. Enhancing collections may be useful in such situations. The
319 addition of a light to the trap, however, actually reduced the numbers. This would suggest
320 that the light actually had a repellent effect on the local mosquitoes but why this should be
321 so is not known. Chemical lures (including JDC's old socks) have yet to be tested.

322

323 The Furvela tent-trap weighs as little as 2.5 kilograms. Since both CDC light-traps and
324 Furvela tent-traps are portable, effective surveillance, using a limited number of traps, of
325 both indoor and outdoor biting mosquitoes over considerable areas is possible.

326 Mosquito populations can vary as much in space as they do in time (Magbity & Lines,2002).
327 Determination of high density areas (so called 'hot spots') may enable focussed control, such
328 as targeting selected water bodies for larval control, to be undertaken. In order to determine
329 where high density areas occur maps of mosquito density are required. Ease of
330 transportation makes the Furvela tent-trap particularly suitable for mapping studies.
331 Mapping using tent-traps enables locations to be determined according the geographical co-
332 ordinates rather than being dependent on where appropriate houses are available for the
333 installation of light-traps. Among mosquitoes that have fixed breeding sites, such as *An.*
334 *funestus*, such information may allow estimates of flight range to be obtained which may also
335 help determine how wide a potential *cordon sanitaire* needs to be for it to be successful
336 (Charlwood et al., 1998).

337

338 A CDC-trap costs 120 US\$ and the cone collection bag 18 US\$ at current prices. A 6V 4.5Ah
339 lead acid rechargeable battery, that costs circa 15 US\$ and weighs 0.7 kg, can power the trap
340 for a night (see the SOP). Two man tents can cost less than 25\$. Since the location of the door
341 does not affect collections the choice of tents is large. Simple tents weigh less than 1.8 kilos,
342 hence the total weight of the trap (including the tent) is just over 2 kg and costs 173 US\$. The
343 professionals who might want to monitor mosquitoes are likely to have CDC light-traps and
344 batteries available. In this case, the trap would cost just 43 US\$. It only requires one person
345 to put it up and, because the interior of the tent is not altered in any way, is comfortable for

346 the sleeper. As can be seen in the video, once the tent itself is up it takes just a few minutes
347 to install. The ease with which collection bags can be changed means that collections can
348 easily be sub-divided throughout the night. As a routine, they can be changed when local
349 residents enter their houses, so that estimates of actual outdoor exposure can be obtained.
350 When not in use the CDC trap can easily be reconverted to a standard light-trap without the
351 need to remove the clips, which hang outside of the trap (see the SOP).

352 Passive monitoring of mosquito populations is providing information on the distribution of
353 mosquitoes in Europe (Kampen et al., 2015). Presently this is restricted to the collection of
354 insects indoors. The use of the Furvela tent-trap need not be confined to the tropics or to
355 professionals. The very simplicity of the trap means that anyone who goes camping can
356 collect, without risk to themselves, from local outdoor biting fauna. Using a smartphone,
357 collections can be geo-referenced and the locality photographed. Thus, with a minimum
358 amount of professional resources and data collection, national databases (of such things as
359 bird flu vectors) could be established. Data, and eventually samples, might be sent to a
360 central location (such as a mosquito abatement office) where they would be identified and
361 processed. Unlike all other tent-traps the extra equipment required by any sleeper is
362 minimal.

363 **Conclusions**

364
365 Monitoring outdoor biting activity of malaria vectors is an important component of present
366 efforts attempting to control the disease. Our understanding of the ecology of mosquitoes
367 which may be vectors of emerging diseases, other than malaria, is limited. These mosquitoes
368 will normally be exophagic. The WHO has recently recognized the necessity for novel

369 sampling tools to conduct surveillance of outdoor biting mosquitoes with the objective of
370 assessing vector species composition, time and place of biting, and abundance (WHO, 2014).
371 Furvela tent-traps are a simple and effective way of collecting such mosquitoes.

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373
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Figure 1(on next page)

The Furvela tent-trap Mk 1

Modifications and installation of the trap - A The opening of the tent door is sewn open; B Clips are used to attach the body of the trap to the tent; C A rain-proof cover is added to the collection bag; D Eyelets are sewn into the back of the collection bag; E The collection bag is suspended using guy ropes attached to the tent; F A footprint that extends under the trap is added.



A



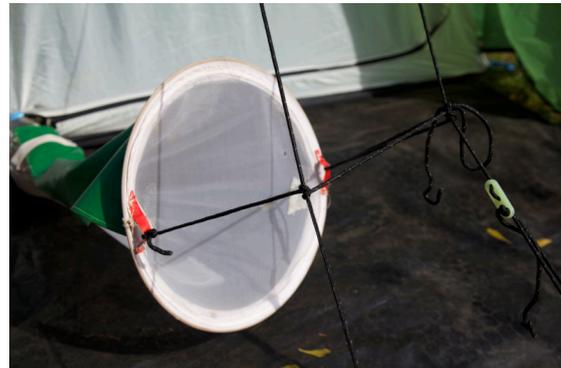
B



C



D



E



F

Figure 2(on next page)

Exit window trap and Furvela tent- trap collections of *An. gambiae* s.l. from the village of Kyamyorwa, Muleba District, Kagera Region, Tanzania.

The arrow marks the time when the interior walls of the bedroom were sprayed with pirimiphos-methyl (Actellic) at 1g ai per m² (prior to the spray cross-correlation between mean weekly numbers in the window trap and numbers in the tent-trap $r = 0.93$, $p = >0.001$).

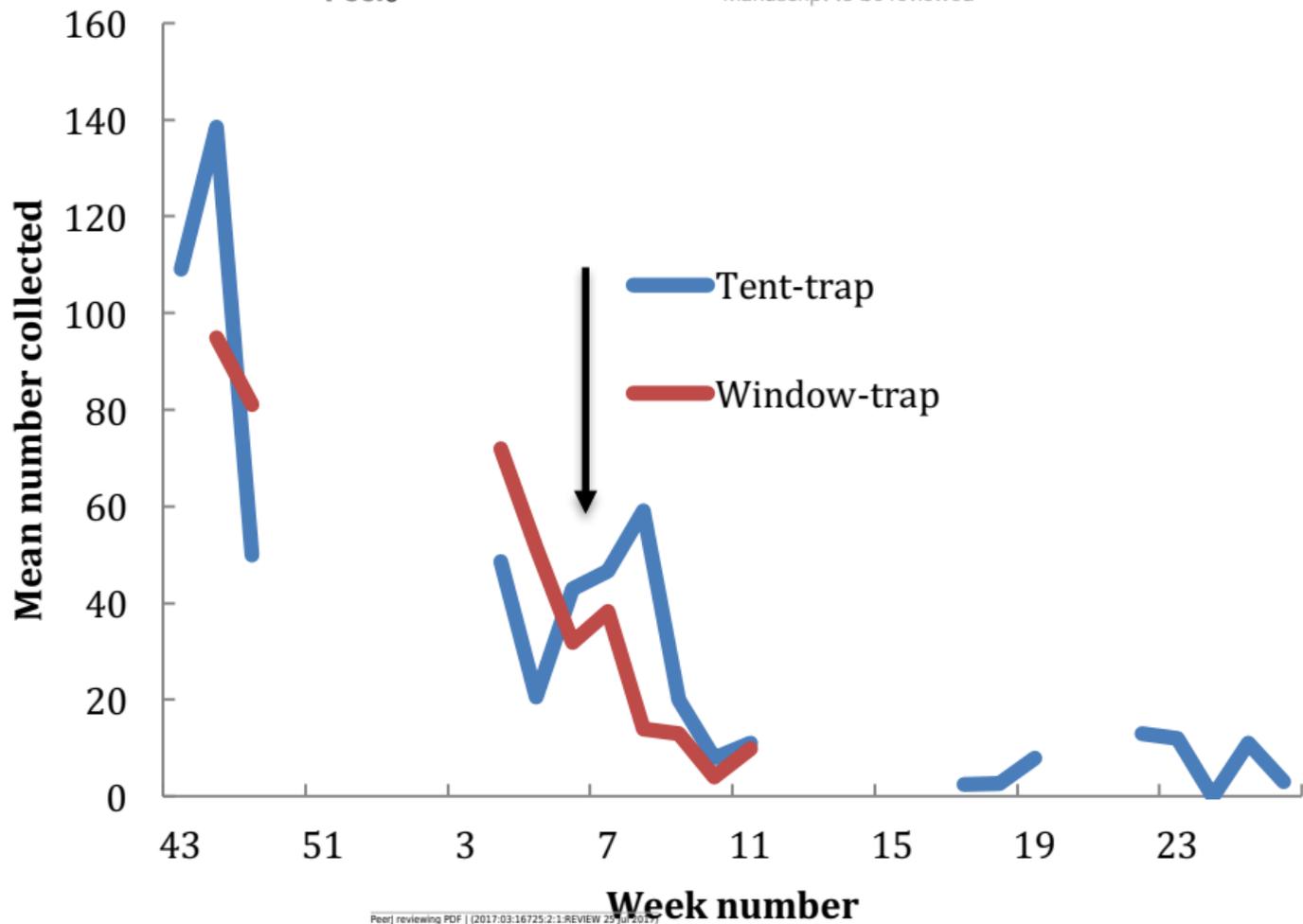


Figure 3(on next page)

Species comparison between window-traps and Furvela tent-traps

Window-trap tent-trap ratios of mosquitoes from Kyamyorwa, Muleba District, Tanzania A: *Anopheles gambiae* (n = 10512) B: *An. funestus* (n= 81), C: *An. coustani* (n=27), D: *An. zeimanni* (n = 282), E: *Cx. quinquefasciatus* (n= 471), F: *Cx. tritaeniorhynchus* (n= 21), G: *Coquelettidia fuscopennata* (n= 130), H: *Mansonia spp.* (n=737), I: *An. squamosus* (n=81) and J: *An. pharoensis* (n=49).

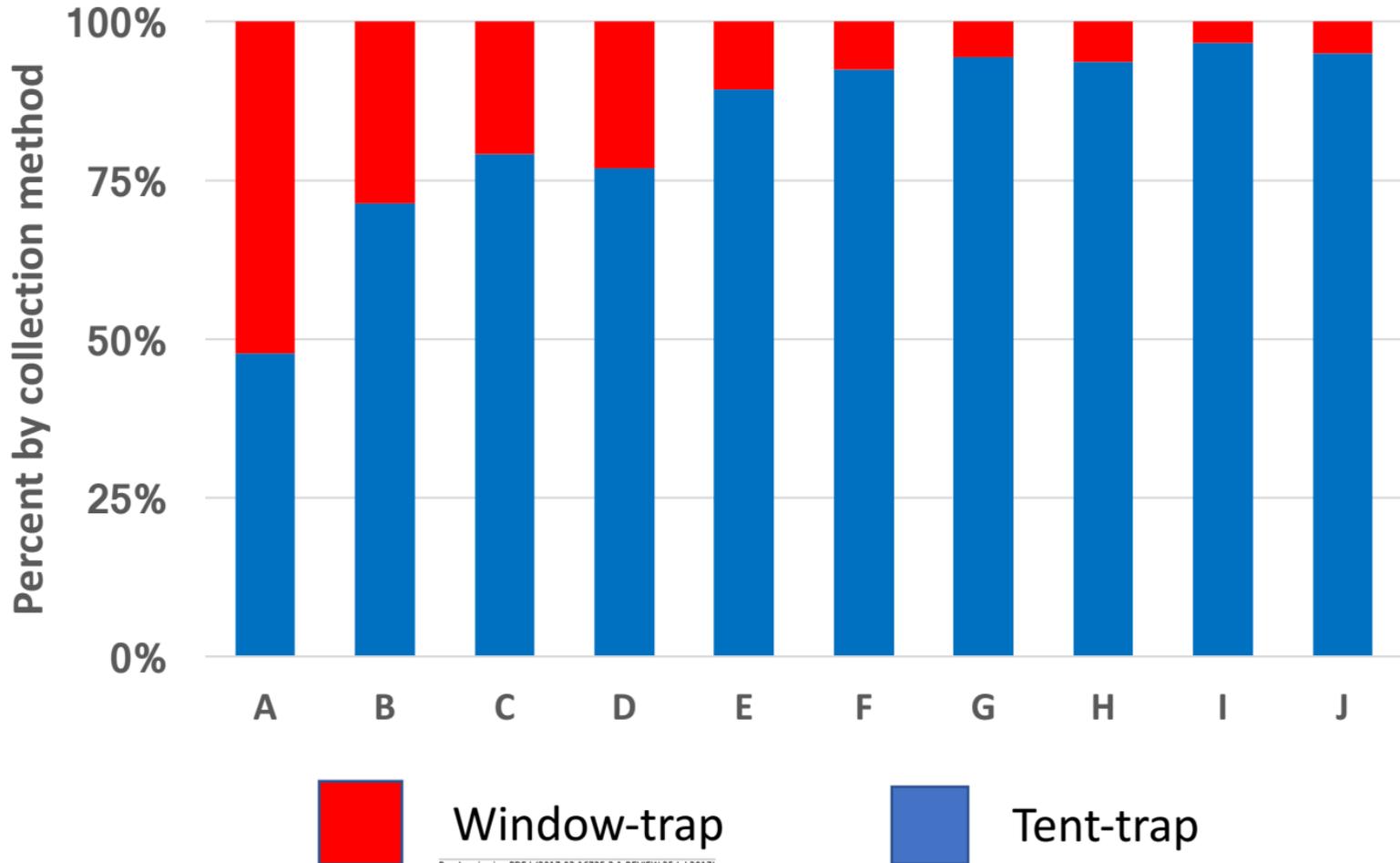


Figure 4(on next page)

Indoor and outdoor ratios of mosquitoes from Massavasse

Indoor and outdoor ratios of the principal mosquitoes collected in Massavasse, Chockwe District, Gaza Province, Mozambique, before and after the walls were sprayed with bendiocarb at 0.4 gm ai m². A: collections made before any intervention and B: collections made after interior walls of houses were sprayed with bendiocarb at 1gm².

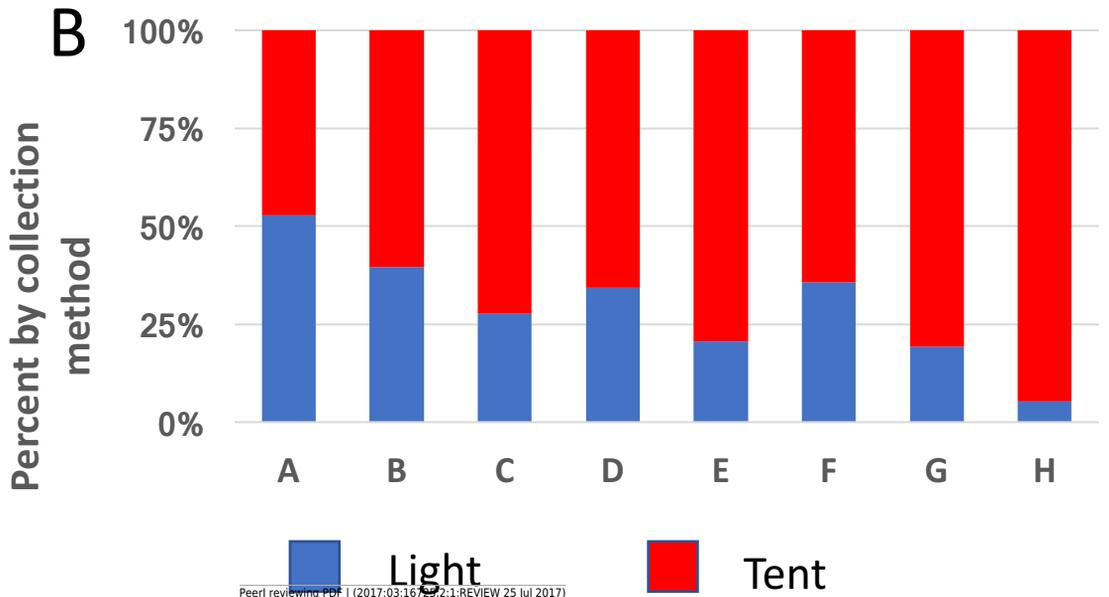
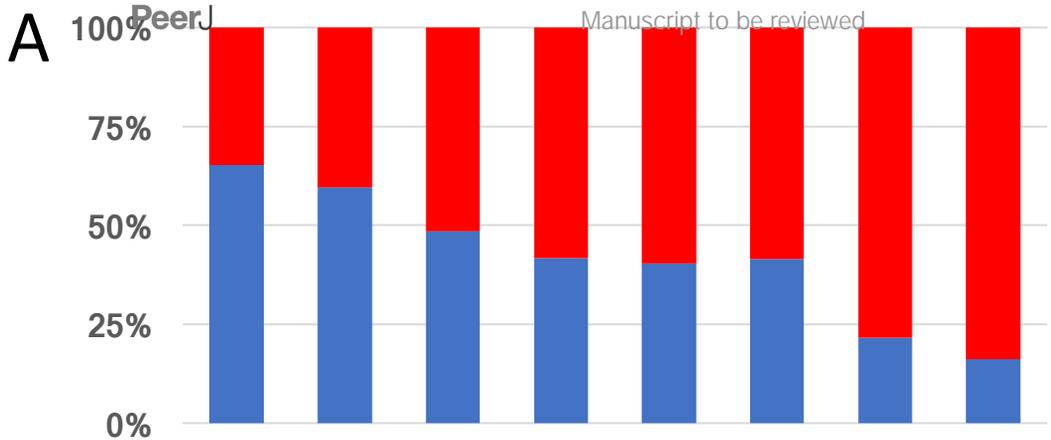


Table 1 (on next page)

Tent-trap and light-trap comparisons from the PAMVERC trial in Muleba District, Tanzania.

	Light trap			N	Tent trap		Density		
	Number of collection	Mean	95%CI		Mean	95%CI	Ratio	95%CI	p value
All vectors	3,395	1.9	1.4-2.5	495	2	1.3-2.6	1	0.8-1.2	p=0.888
All mosquitoes	3,364	8.4	5.8-11.0	491	11.4	7.8-15.0	1.4	1.2-1.5	p<0.001
<i>An. gambiae s.l.</i>	3,395	1.7	1.2-2.2	495	1.8	1.2-2.5	1.1	0.9-1.4	p=0.356
<i>An. funestus</i>	3,395	0.3	0.2-0.4	495	0.14	0.07-0.2	0.5	0.3-0.7	p<0.001
<i>An. zeimanni</i>	3,395	0.2	0.1-0.3	493	0.37	0.2-0.6	2.1	1.0-4.4	p=0.058
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i>	3,394	3.1	1.4-4.8	494	3.7	1.8-5.5	1.2	0.9-1.5	p=0.197
<i>Mansonia spp.</i>	3,390	1	0.7-1.3	495	1.5	0.9-2.2	1.6	1.3-1.9	p<0.001
<i>Cq. fuscopennata</i>	3,391	1.5	1.1-1.8	495	2.6	1.8-3.4	1.8	1.3-2.3	p<0.001

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Table 2 (on next page)

Comparison between number of mosquitoes collected between tent-trap and tent-trap with a light source

Comparison between number of mosquitoes collected between a standard tent-trap and a tent-trap with light source (an incandescent 6V light as used in a standard CDC light-trap) *
Adjusted for collector, location, and date, Kyamyorwa, Muleba, Tanzania. DRR =Density Rate Ratio, CI = 95% Confidence Interval.

Method	<i>Anopheles*</i>		<i>Mansonia sp</i>		Total All Species	
	DRR	Adjusted DRR*	DRR	Adjusted DRR*	DRR	Adjusted IRR*
Tent-trap	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Tent-trap+Light	0.24	0.14	0.56	0.52	0.47	0.38
95% CI	0.08, 0.57	0.07, 0.28	0.2, 1.6	0.27, 0.97	0.22, 1.02	0.24, 0.59
<i>p</i> -value	0.002	<0.001	0.28	0.04	0.056	<0.001

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