

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.

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

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19 **Abstract**

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

21 has recently recognized the need for suitable methods for assessing vector density outdoors

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

23 does not require an 'entry' behaviour on the part of the mosquito and therefore approximates

24 most closely to human landing catches (without the associated risks). It remains the cheapest

25 and lightest tent-trap available, takes less than two minutes to install, and is the only trap that

26 uses readily available components. Here we describe recent modifications to the trap, which

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

32

33 **Introduction**

34

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

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

49 Although it is malaria vectors that are of primary concern, many other outdoor biting
50 (exophagic) mosquitoes are potential vectors of pathogens, including a number of 'emerging'
51 diseases.

52

53 The objective of monitoring outdoor biting would be to assess vector species composition,
54 abundance, and the time and place of biting. The primary requisites of such methods are that
55 they catch mosquitoes which would normally bite people outside, using simple and inexpensive
56 equipment. Outdoor exposure, at least in the evening, is best measured in human landing
57 collections (HLC), in which mosquitoes are caught attempting to bite the exposed lower legs of
58 collectors sitting outside, as this is usual behaviour. HLC have been used extensively in the past,
59 largely to sample malaria vectors (Silver, 1998). Landing collections, require considerable
60 supervision however, and, since mosquitoes may be able to inject pathogens before being
61 caught, impose risks to the collectors. Mosquitoes are also attracted to different humans at
62 different rates. Indeed, this differential attraction may also differ by species (Knols et al., 1995).

63

64 In a number of studies commercially available Centre for Disease Control (CDC) light-traps have
65 been used outdoors because they do not expose people to mosquito bites, are widely available
66 and cheap to run (Githeko et al., 1994, Constantini et al., 1998, Cooke et al., 2015). Whilst
67 operationally practical, evidence from these studies suggests that they do not adequately
68 sample the outdoor biting fraction of malaria vectors (Fornadel, Norris and Norris, 2010). Thus,
69 Costantini *et al.*, (1998) reported no significant correlation between *Anopheles gambiae* s.l.,
70 HLC outdoors and outdoor CDC light-traps, and density-dependent correlation in the case of

71 *Anopheles funestus*. Cooke *et al.* (2015) attempted to measure the outdoor biting fraction of
72 the population by employing a CDC light-trap hung adjacent to an occupied, open-sided rain
73 shelter constructed from a domed one-man tent, but concluded that such traps were a
74 'limitation' of their study. Other traps, notably the MM-X trap (Njiru *et al.*, 2006) and more
75 recently the 'Suna' trap (Homan *et al.*, 2016) have been developed to catch outdoor biting
76 mosquitoes. Nevertheless, they do not provide an easily quantifiable estimate of exposure, nor
77 are they cheap or easily available. Tent-traps are the simplest alternative solution.

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

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

91 The 'Furvela' tent-trap catches mosquitoes before they enter the tent, it is therefore likely to
92 sample the 'true' outdoor fraction of the population. The trap remains the most

93 straightforward, lightest and cheapest tent-trap available. It is the only trap that is made from
94 commercially available 'off the shelf' components, including the tent itself. Collections in the
95 Furvela tent-trap are closely correlated to CDC light-trap collections used to monitor indoor
96 biting mosquitoes (Govella et al., 2009, Charlwood et al., 2011, 2012), this makes it especially
97 useful for the measurement of changes in indoor/outdoor ratios following the application of
98 methods to control indoor biting mosquitoes. Since changing the collection bag is easy with the
99 Furvela tent-trap it is also possible to examine the biting profile of the mosquitoes throughout
100 the night as was done previously in Ghana (Charlwood et al., 2011).

101 The trap has been used to make the first map of the spatial variation in outdoor biting densities
102 of mosquitoes (Charlwood et al., 2013) and has recently been used to evaluate an intervention
103 that targeted outdoor biting mosquitoes in Cambodia (Charlwood et al., 2016). Presently they
104 are being used to monitor outdoor biting mosquitoes over a 950km² area in 40 villages in
105 Kagera Province, Tanzania.

106 Since its initial description (Charlwood 2005, Govella et al., 2009) the trap has undergone a
107 number of modifications which make it even easier to set up in the field, but do not affect its
108 basic operation. Here we describe these modifications and discuss some recent experiments,
109 including an examination of the effect that the addition of a light to the trap and the effect that
110 door position relative to the sleepers' head has on numbers caught. We supply evidence that
111 the trap does indeed catch outdoor biting mosquitoes and provide a Standard Operating
112 Procedure (SOP) on how to set the trap up in the field.

113 **Methods**

114

115 The basic principle of the Furvela trap is that host odour and exhaled gases emanating from a
116 gap, the diameter of a CDC trap, in the predominantly closed door of the tent are sucked into a
117 CDC trap (without the light, lid or grid) placed, outside the tent, horizontally between 2 to 3cms
118 from the opening in the door. On approach to the opening the insects are sucked into the trap
119 and held in the standard CDC trap conical collection bag. The suction from the fan effectively
120 prevents any mosquitoes from entering the tent, even at very high densities, so that the sleeper
121 is only exposed if they leave it for some reason. As originally described (Charlwood, 2007,
122 Govella et al., 2013) the setting up of the trap was slightly awkward. Recent improvements to
123 the original trap include the following (Fig 1 A -F):

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

151 A series of experiments were undertaken to determine the relationship between different
152 indoor trapping types with the tent-trap and to investigate possible procedures that might
153 increase the efficiency of the trap. The experiments took place in Kyamyorwa village, located on
154 an inlet of Lake Victoria, in Kagera Province, northern Tanzania before and after an intervention
155 to control malaria was undertaken in the village. The intervention included indoor residual
156 spraying of insecticide for the control of post-prandial insects and the introduction of long-
157 lasting insecticidal nets for the control of biting insects. Indoor walls of houses in the village

158 were sprayed with pirimiphos-methyl (Actellic) and an LLIN incorporating permethrin and the
159 synergist piperonyl butoxide (PBO) were distributed to residents in February 2015.

160 In addition to CDC light-traps, exit window-traps are another possible proxy for exposure
161 indoors. The number of mosquitoes collected from a 50x50x50cm, netting sided, window-trap
162 (Silver, 1998) that covered the only window of a bedroom occupied by two adults was
163 compared to the number collected in a tent-trap 20m from the house occupied by a single
164 sleeper. The tent-trap was operated twice a week and window-trap collections were
165 undertaken on a daily basis over a nine-week period in Kyamyorwa. Mean numbers per
166 trapping method per ISO week were compared using Pearson's correlation in Excel
167 (supplementary file 2, [peerj-16725-Kyamyorwa_hse_2_window_tent_-1.xlsx](#)).

168

169 In order to feed inside a house mosquitoes need to enter through relatively small openings
170 (such as the gap between the eaves and the roof). Not all species of mosquito will do this and
171 so these species are mainly caught biting outdoors. One way of determining if the Furvela tent-
172 trap catches outdoor biting mosquitoes is to determine if these mosquitoes are caught in the
173 trap. We, therefore, compared the species ratios of mosquitoes collected indoors with CDC
174 light-traps or window-traps with outdoor collections in the tent-trap in different situations. In
175 order to determine if the numbers collected varied in the same manner during the night,
176 mosquitoes were removed from the window trap at four-hour intervals (22:00, 02:00 and
177 06:00), whilst at the same time the collection bag on the tent-trap was changed. Collected
178 anophelines were identified (by JDC) using the keys of Gillies and De Meillon (1968) and Gillies
179 and Coetzee (1987). Non-anophelines from Mozambique were kindly identified by Dr Ralph

180 Harbach of the British Museum of Natural History, London, those from Tanzania were identified
181 by the authors using the descriptions provided by Gillett (1972).

182

183 As part of the Pan African Malaria Vector Research (PAMVERC) trial (Protopopoff et al., 2017)
184 both tent-traps, outdoors, and light-traps, indoors, are being used to sample malaria vectors in
185 the 48 clusters of the trial area. During each round of sampling, the traps are set up for one
186 night in seven randomly selected houses per cluster. Houses for light-trap and tent-trap
187 samples were chosen at random from the census database obtained at the start of the study.
188 During sampling the light-trap was set up in a bedroom at the end of a bed in which someone
189 slept under a mosquito net and, by one house, a tent-trap was set up (and slept in by the
190 PAMVERC entomologist/collector). Collections from the baseline year (2015) were analysed and
191 are presented. Data were entered into a database and analysed with Stata 12 (Stata, 2013).
192 Since the data were over-dispersed (the deviance was greater than the mean), differences in
193 mosquito density between the two collection methods (light trap or tent trap) were estimated
194 using negative binomial regression. Standard errors were adjusted to allow for within-cluster
195 correlation of responses using robust standard errors.

196

197 Other factors, including number of sleepers, chemical lures, light or the position of the sleepers'
198 head relative to the opening, may affect the efficiency of the trap. Two of these variables were
199 investigated in Kyamyorwa village: the effect of a light source and the effect of door position on
200 the number of mosquitoes captured. The effect of a light source was investigated in a series of

201 collections using four tent-traps in Kyamyorwa (supplementary file 3, [peerj-16725-Light No-](#)
202 [Light_Tent-Trapping_Muleba-1.xls](#))

203 A new moon occurred on June 27 2014 (the start of the experiment) and there was little/no
204 ambient illumination during collection dates, providing optimal experimental conditions. We
205 used 2-door tents for these experiments (the Highlander Glen Orchy 2 Tent[®]). A standard tent-
206 trap functioned as a control on one side of the tent while the trap on the other door
207 incorporated an incandescent bulb, as used in the CDC light-trap. The trap with the light was
208 rotated between sides on alternate days. Tent-traps were operated from 21:00-06:30 the
209 following day and were operated from June 30-July 4, 2014. The incidence rate ratio (IRR) and
210 density rate ratios (DRR) (i.e. a relative difference measurements used to compare the
211 incidence rates of events occurring at any given point in time) were used to compare the
212 relative density of mosquitoes sampled by a tent-trap with light (TT+L) with a standard trap
213 (TT). Variables including collector, collection date, and sampling site were identified as potential
214 confounding factors during univariate analysis and were included in the final regression model.

215

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

222

223 **Ethics**

224 The collections conducted in Tanzania were done as a component of the Pan African Malaria
225 Vector Research Consortium project ‘Evaluation of a novel long lasting insecticidal net and
226 indoor residual spray product, separately and together, against malaria transmitted by
227 pyrethroid resistant mosquitoes’ which received ethical clearance from the ethics review
228 committees of the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical College (certificate number 781 on the 16
229 September 2014), the Tanzanian National Institute for Medical Research (20 August 2014), and
230 the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (reference 6551 on 24 July 2014). The trial
231 was registered with ClinicalTrials.gov (registration number NCT02288637) on 11 July 2014.
232 Collections from Mozambique were undertaken under the aegis of the joint Instituto Nacional
233 de Saúde (INS)–DBL Centre for Health Research and Development project ‘Turning houses into
234 traps for mosquitoes’, which obtained ethical clearance from the National Bioethics Committee
235 of Mozambique on 2 April 2001 (ref: 056/CNBS/01).
236 Prior to beginning collections, informal sensitisation sessions were conducted with village
237 members to explain sampling-related activities. Written and oral informed consent was
238 obtained from all participants who could withdraw from the study at any time should they wish
239 to do so.

240 **Results**

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

242 In the baseline year, between 23 October 2014 (ISO week number 43) and 14 March 2015 (ISO
243 week number 25), 70 collections were undertaken from the window trap (only two collections
244 being undertaken in December) and 17 tent trap collections were performed. Changes in

245 population density obtained from the two collection methods were similar ($r = 0.93$, $P < 0.001$)
246 (Fig 2). Numbers in the window trap declined from a peak of 1018 on the 24 November 2104 to
247 single figures in the second week of February and from 243 in the tent-trap (on the 19
248 November 2104 to 20 on the 25 February 2015). The decline in both collections fitted a
249 logarithmic series (window $y = -34.45\ln(x) + 120.82$ $R^2 = 0.793$; tent $y = -37.93\ln(x) + 126.75$, $R^2 =$
250 0.806). The house was sprayed with primiphos-methyl on 23 February 2015 and subsequently
251 the number in the window-trap fell to zero but numbers in the tent-trap persisted, albeit at a
252 very low density. A larger proportion of the catch was caught in the earlier part of the night in
253 the tent-trap compared to the window-trap ($\chi^2 = 16.8$, $df = 3$, $P = 0.014$) although, for both
254 collections, most insects were caught in the middle hours of the night.

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

261

262 A similar implication comes from the redrawn data from Massavasse in Mozambique, where
263 144,317 mosquitoes were collected from 2,551 light-trap and 94,354 from 776 tent-trap
264 collections (Fig 4) (Charlwood et al., 2013). In Massavasse only *An. funestus* and *Culex* spp.
265 (mostly *Cx. quinquefasciatus*) were caught in greater numbers indoors compared to the other
266 species shown in the figure. Following the application of the insecticide bendiocarb to the

267 interior walls of houses in the village a greater proportion of the collection of all species,
268 including the exophagic ones, was obtained in tent-traps (Fig 4).

269 **Effect of light on numbers collected**

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

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

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

283 **Discussion**

284
285 In order to determine the density of potential vectors biting outdoors suitable alternative
286 methods to 'gold standard' HLC are required. This is because, in addition to being expensive
287 and requiring considerable supervision, mosquitoes may transmit pathogens before being

288 caught by collectors performing HLC and so are at risk of becoming ill. The Furvela tent-trap is
289 one such alternative.

290 Like all trapping techniques that rely on the attraction of mosquitoes to a human, including HLC
291 and CDC light-traps, it is likely to be affected by the individual attractiveness of the humans
292 acting as bait. Nevertheless, the greater diversity of species collected in Furvela tent-traps,
293 from a number of study sites, compared to the diversity from indoor collections, especially CDC
294 light-traps, indicates that it adequately samples outdoor biting mosquitoes (Govella et al., 2009,
295 Charlwood et al., 2012). A pairing of either a CDC light-trap or window-trap (used to collect
296 endophagic mosquitoes) with a Furvela tent-trap (to collect exophagic ones) enables the effect
297 of environmental perturbations or interventions to be determined.

298 The data obtained to date with the tent-trap confirm that arbovirus vectors, like *Cq.*
299 *fuscopennata* or *Mansonia* spp., bite predominantly, but not exclusively, outdoors. Among
300 malaria vectors the members of the *An. gambiae* complex tend to be collected in equal
301 numbers in tent and light-traps whilst *An. funestus* have generally been caught in light-traps at
302 higher rates compared to tent-traps, confirming their endophilic status. Whether the apparent
303 change from endophilic and endophagic, behaviour to exophagic behaviour in *An. funestus*
304 following IRS with bendiocarb in Massavasse was because the insects entering houses were
305 killed before being caught in light-traps, or because they refrained from entering in the first
306 place, remains unknown and merits further investigation.

307

308 Mosquito populations, as assessed by indoor collections with CDC light-traps, are often
309 considered to be temporally unpredictable. This may be due to environmental factors, such as

310 rainfall, that may affect the proportion of the population biting indoors (and so available for
311 capture by the light-trap). For example, in Ghana a greater proportion of the night's catch of
312 *An. coluzzii* were collected indoors on rainy nights (Charlwood et al., 2011). The total collected
313 in paired indoor light-trap and outdoor tent-trap collections was, however, not different from
314 the number expected. Subsequently the collections returned to the anticipated ratios. In order
315 to control for potential changes in the proportion of the mosquito population biting indoors or
316 outdoors, studies assessing mosquito population dynamics should include simultaneous indoor
317 and outdoor collections. Paired collections may reduce some of the 'noise' in such data making
318 it more amenable to analysis.

319 Vector control plays a big part in current efforts to eliminate malaria. As a result, mosquito
320 densities may become very low. Improving capture efficiency may be useful in such situations.
321 The addition of a light to the trap, however, actually reduced the numbers. This would suggest
322 that the light actually had a repellent effect on the local mosquitoes but why this should be so is
323 not known. Chemical lures may enhance collections and merit consideration.

324

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

328 Mosquito populations can vary as much in space as they do in time (Magbity & Lines,2002).
329 Determination of high density areas (so called 'hot spots') may enable focussed control, such as
330 targeting selected water bodies for larval control, to be undertaken. In order to determine
331 where high density areas occur maps of mosquito density are required. Ease of transportation

332 makes the Furvela tent-trap particularly suitable for mapping studies. Mapping using tent-traps
333 enables locations to be determined according the geographical co-ordinates rather than being
334 dependent on where appropriate houses are available for the installation of light-traps. Among
335 mosquitoes that have fixed breeding sites, such as *An. funestus*, such information may allow
336 estimates of flight range to be obtained, which may also help determine how wide a potential
337 *cordon sanitaire* needs to be for it to be successful (Charlwood et al., 1998).

338

339 A CDC-trap costs 120 US\$ and the cone collection bag 18 US\$ at current prices. A 6V 4.5Ah lead
340 acid rechargeable battery, that costs circa 15 US\$ and weighs 0.7 kg, can power the trap for a
341 night (see the SOP). Two man tents can cost less than 25\$. Since the location of the door does
342 not affect collections the choice of tents is large. Simple tents weigh less than 1.8 kilos, hence
343 the total weight of the trap (including the tent) is just over 2 kg and costs 173 US\$. The
344 professionals who might want to monitor mosquitoes are likely to have CDC light-traps and
345 batteries available. In this case, the trap would cost just 43 US\$. It only requires one person to
346 put it up and, because the interior of the tent is not altered in any way, is comfortable for the
347 sleeper. As can be seen in the video, once the tent itself is up it takes just a few minutes to
348 install. The ease with which collection bags can be changed means that collections can easily be
349 sub-divided throughout the night. As a routine, they can be changed when local residents enter
350 their houses, so that estimates of actual outdoor exposure can be obtained. When not in use
351 the CDC trap can easily be reconverted to a standard light-trap without the need to remove the
352 clips, which hang outside of the trap (see the SOP).

353 Passive monitoring of mosquito populations is providing information on the distribution of
354 mosquitoes in Europe (Kampen et al., 2015). Presently this is restricted to the collection of
355 insects indoors. The use of the Furvela tent-trap need not be confined to the tropics or to
356 professionals. The very simplicity of the trap means that anyone who goes camping can collect,
357 without risk to themselves, from local outdoor biting fauna. Using a smartphone, collections
358 can be geo-referenced and the locality photographed. Thus, with a minimum amount of
359 professional resources and data collection, national databases (of such things as bird flu
360 vectors) could be established. Data, and eventually samples, might be sent to a central location
361 (such as a Mosquito Abatement Office) where they would be identified and processed. Unlike
362 all other tent-traps the extra equipment required by any sleeper is 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 may well be exophagic. The WHO has recently recognized the necessity for novel sampling tools
369 to conduct surveillance of outdoor biting mosquitoes with the objective of assessing vector
370 species composition, time and place of biting, and abundance (WHO, 2014). Furvela tent-traps
371 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



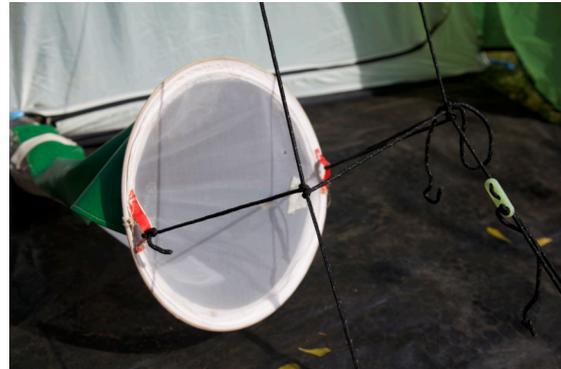
B



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 $r = 0.93$, $p = >0.001$).

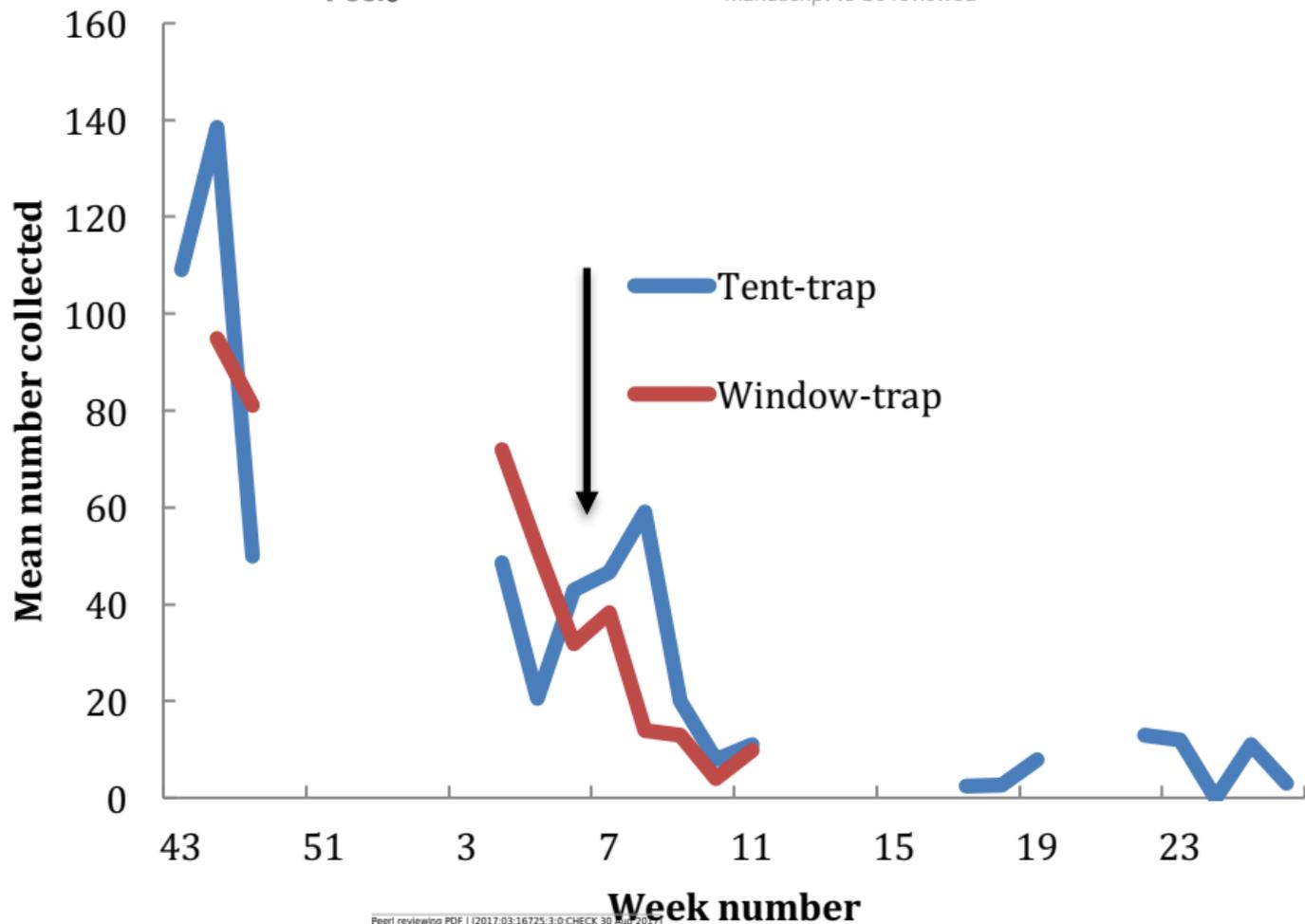


Figure 3(on next page)

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).

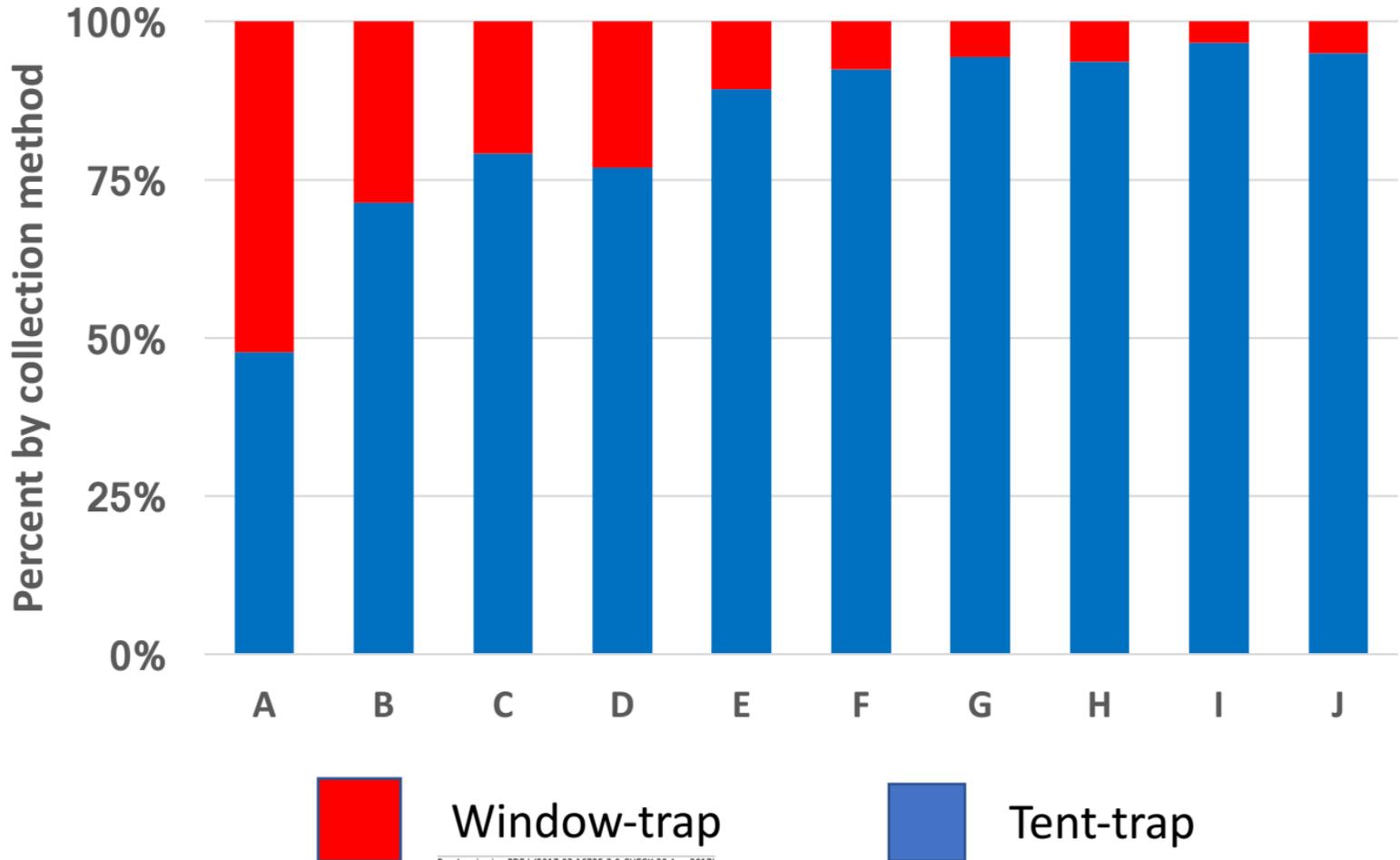


Figure 4(on next page)

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 (Panel 4A) and after the walls were sprayed with bendiocarb at 0.4 gm ai m² (Panel 4B). A: *Anopheles funestus* (n before spray = 3754, n after spray = 1742), B: *Culex* spp. - mainly *Cx. quinquefasciatus* (n before = 4267, n after spray = 2208), C: *An. pharoensis* (n before = 2642 n after spray = 2078), D: *An. arabiensis* (n before = 5406, n after spray = 512), E: *Aedes scatopagoides* (n before = 1085 n after spray = 395), F: *Mansonia africana* (n before = 38173, n after spray = 12054). Data from Charlwood et al., 2013.

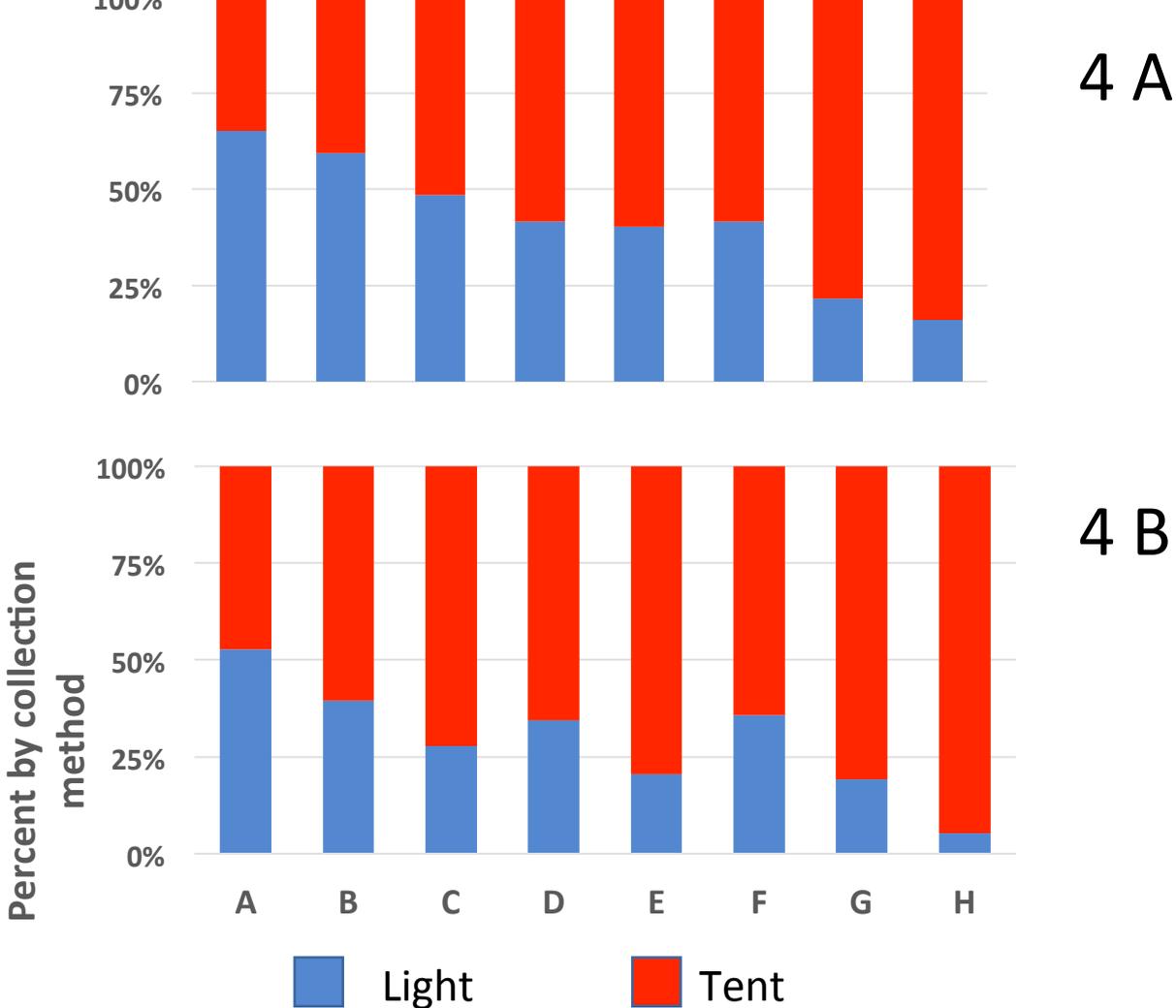


Table 1 (on next page)

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

	CDC light-trap			Furvela tent-trap			Density		P value
	Number of collections	Mean	95% CI	Number of collections	Mean	95% CI	Ratio	95%CI	
All vectors	3,395	1.9	1.4-2.5	495	2	1.3-2.6	1	0.8-1.2	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	<0.001
<i>An. gambiae</i> s.l.	3,395	1.7	1.2-2.2	495	1.8	1.2-2.5	1.1	0.9-1.4	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	<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	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	0.197
<i>Mansonia</i> sp.	3,390	1	0.7-1.3	495	1.5	0.9-2.2	1.6	1.3-1.9	<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	<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 density of species collected in a standard tent-trap (TT) and tent-trap with an incandescent 6V light, as used in a standard CDC light-trap, (TT+ Light), Kyamyorwa, Muleba, Tanzania IRR = Incidence Rate Ratio; Adjusted = IRR adjusted for collector, location, and date; 95%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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