Insecticide Resistance in \textit{An. gambiae} Mosquitoes


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\textbf{Anopheles} \\
[\textipa{[ə-nof’e-lēz]}]

From the Greek \textit{an} (“not”) + \textit{ophelos} (“benefit”), a genus of mosquitoes, many species of which are vectors of malaria. \textit{Anopheles} was first described by German entomologist Johann Wilhelm Meigen in 1818. Although some sources translate \textit{Anopheles} as “harmful,” it would be decades before Ronald Ross showed in 1897 that these mosquitoes transmit malaria parasites, and Meigen was most likely using \textit{Anopheles} in a more literal interpretation as “useless.” That said, the connotation of “harmful” was prophetic in describing a mosquito that, even today, is indirectly responsible for \(\approx\)1 million deaths per year.

Sources


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