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ASSESSMENT OF MOSQUITO BREEDING IN THE DRAIN IN MELAKA DENGUE OUTBREAK LOCALITIES

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INTRODUCTION

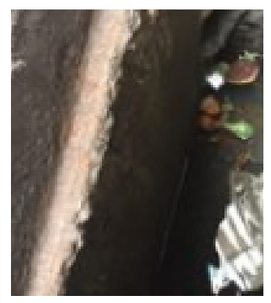
The public often claims that drainage systems serve as the main breeding grounds for *Aedes* mosquitoes due to stagnant water in the drain. Thus, this study inspected drains in outbreak localities for mosquito breeding. This survey's objective was to identify the drain, as the primary cause of the dengue outbreak, especially in dengue-endemic areas.

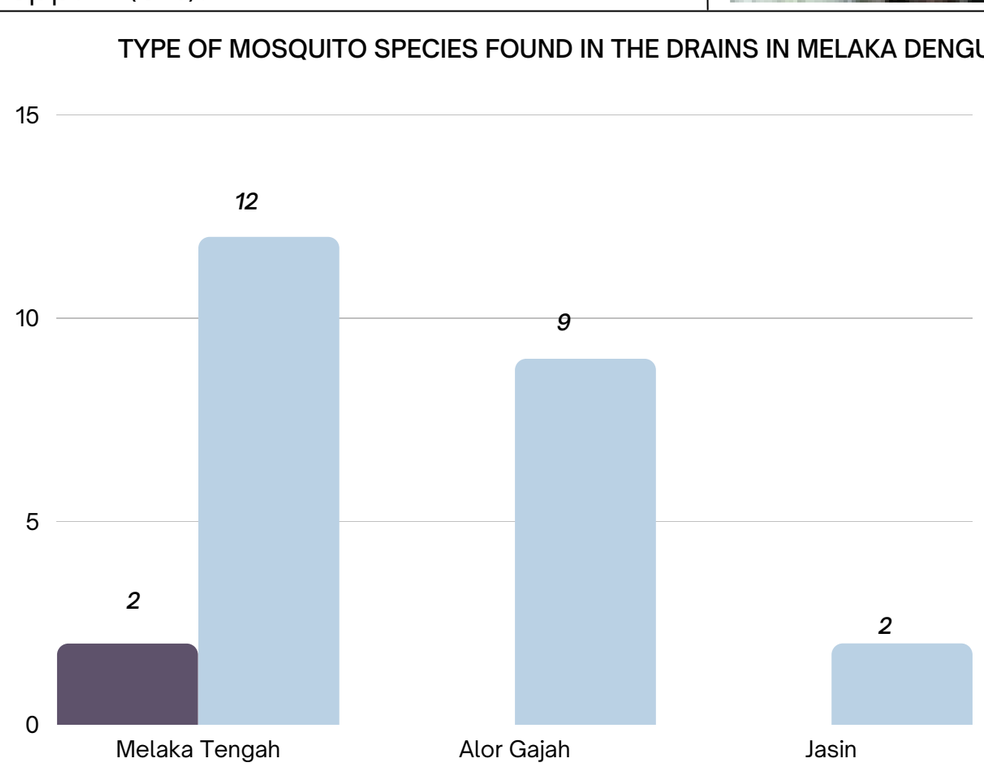
METHODOLOGY

- The drains in 42 localities (20 in Melaka Tengah district, 17 in Alor Gajah district and 5 Jasin district) were surveyed.
- A dipping technique with a minimum of 5 repetitions for each suspected breeding place was performed. Exclusion criteria were monsoon drain, polluted drain and covered drain.

RESULTS

- In Melaka Tengah district, 14 out of 20 localities were positive for mosquito breeding. 12 out of 14 breeding were positive with *Culex* spp. and only 2 with *Aedes* spp. Both *Aedes* spp. were collected at Taman Ayer Keroh Heights and Pangsapuri Taman Tasik Utama where the water conditions were clear stagnant water sourced from leaking tap water nearby.
- In Alor Gajah district, all 9 out of 17 localities were positive for Culex spp.
- In Jasin district, 2 out of 5 localities were positive for Culex spp. In total, 25 (59.5%) out of 42 localities were positive for mosquito breeding in all localities with *Culex* spp. being the dominant species found in 23 localities (92%) compared to *Aedes* spp. 2 (8%).





CONCLUSION

The drains were mainly occupied by Culex spp. breeding as opposed to Aedes spp. and they were not the primary breeding source for Aedes spp. breeding in dengue-endemic localities in Melaka.

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