First report on the presence of natural *Wolbachia* population from major malarial vector mosquitoes *Anopheles culicifacies* s.l., and *Anopheles stephensi* from Tamil Nadu, India

S. Gowri Sankar[1$], T. Mowna Sundari[2,3$*], A. Alwin Prem Anand[2$*]

[1]ICMR-Vector Control Research Centre - Field Station, Madurai - 625002, Tamil Nadu, India.
[2]DBT - BIF Centre (Under DBT BTISNet Scheme), Lady Doak College, Madurai - 625002, Tamil Nadu, India.
[3]Department of Biotechnology, Lady Doak College, Madurai - 625002, Tamil Nadu, India.

[$]Equally contributed

*Corresponding authors
A. Alwin Prem Anand
DBT - BIF Centre (Under DBT BTISNet Scheme)
Lady Doak College
Madurai - 625002
Tamil Nadu
India.
E-mail: alwinprem@gmail.com

T. Mowna Sundari
DBT - BIF Centre (Under DBT BTISNet Scheme)
Lady Doak College
Madurai - 625002
Tamil Nadu
India.
E-mail: mownasundari@ldc.edu.in

Abstract

Wolbachia is an alpha-proteobacteria present in several arthropods. The present study focussed on the identification of *Wolbachia* in wild malarial vector mosquitoes. This was achieved by molecular identification of *Wolbachia* from collected mosquitoes. A total of four hundred and eight seven mosquito samples were collected. Morphometric and molecular analysis revealed that they belong to *Anopheles culicifacies* s.l., (48.25%) and *Anopheles stephensi* (51.75%). The presence of *Wolbachia* was identified using *16S* rRNA, *wsp* and *FtsZ* genes, where nested PCR of *16S* rRNA alone was successful and then sequenced. Only seven mosquitoes (1.4%) were positive for *Wolbachia*. *In silico* and restriction digestion of *16S* rRNA gene product using RsaI enzyme showed that the identified *Wolbachia* belongs to supergroup B. The prevalence rate of natural *Wolbachia* was lesser in native malarial vector *An. culicifacies* s.l. and *An. stephensi* was about 1.7% and 1.2%, respectively. This is the first report on the presence of *Wolbachia* in *Anopheles culicifacies* s.l. and *Anopheles stephensi*.

Keywords: Anopheles culicifacies s.l., *Anopheles stephensi, Wolbachia,* malarial vector, 16S rRNA, endosymbiont.

Introduction

Wolbachia is an intracellular alpha-proteobacteria found in a wide range of arthropods. It was first discovered by Hertig and Wolbach in 1924 considered to be the abundant endosymbiont found in invertebrates (Hertig & Wolbach 1924) and cause reproductive abnormalities (cytoplasmic incompatibility, male killing, parthenogenesis and feminization) in the host (Werren 1997, Werren et al 2008). This endosymbiotic proteobacteria naturally infect 65% of insect species (Hilgenboecker et al 2008, Werren 1997, Werren et al 1995a) including the family *Culicidae* (de Oliveira et al 2015, Sicard et al 2019). So far *Wolbachia* wildtype is reported in the following mosquito species: *Culex* (*Cx.*) *pipiens* (Hertig & Wolbach 1924), *Cx. quinquefasciatus* (Mahilum et al 2003) *Aedes* (*Ae.*) *albopictus* (Dutton & Sinkins 2004, Sinkins et al 1995), *Ae. aegypti* (Coon et al 2016) and few *Anopheles* species (Baldini et al 2014, Gomes et al 2017).

The natural occurrence of *Wolbachia* in *Anopheles* species has not been extensively studied. The *Anopheles* genera of *Culicidae* consists of 537 species (Harbach 2013), where 41 species are dominant vector species (DVS) responsible for the transmission of malaria (Hay et al 2010). Among the 41 DVS, 19 species/species complex were found within Asian-Pacific region (Sinka et al 2011). As per WHO, 228 million malaria cases occurred worldwide in 2018; where India is one among the twenty countries that carries 85% of the global malarial burden (WHO 2019). In India, *An. baimaii*, *An. fluviatilis*, *An. minimus*, *An. sundaicus*, *An. culicifacies* complex species (A, B, C, D & E) and *An. stephensi* are primary vectors in transmitting malaria, with *An. culicifacies* complex and *An. stephensi* as major contributors (Subbarao et al 2019). *An. culicifaciess. s.l.* is widely distributed in rural, semi-urban and forest areas (Dev & Sharma 2013, Goswami et al 2006, Subbarao et al 2019) and, *An. stephensi* in peri-, semi- and urban areas (Dev & Sharma 2013, Subbarao et al 2019).

In Tamil Nadu, *An. stephensi* (Arjunan et al 2015, Sharma & Hamzakoya 2001, Surendran et al 2019) and *An. culicifacies* (Arjunan et al 2015, Kar et al 1999, Suguna et al 1983) are the main malaria vectors. Interestingly, few reports on natural *Wolbachia* endosymbionts in major malarial vector *Anopheles* species are reported including *An. gambiae*, *An. coluzzii* (Baldini et al 2014, Gomes et al 2017), *An. arabiensis* (Baldini et al 2018) and *An. moucheti* (Ayala et al 2019, Jeffries et al 2018). The present study aimed at the investigation of

Wolbachia infection in wild mosquitoes population collected from different geographical locations in Tamilnadu.

Materials and Methods

Mosquito collection and taxonomy

Mosquito samples were collected from the 5 different locations along the foothills of the Western Ghats, Southern India (Fig.1). Adults were collected using nets and aspirators. Mosquitoes were identified initially by taxonomic keys (Christophers 1933, Das et al 1990) and later verified by DNA barcoding.

DNA extraction and species identification

DNA isolation from individual mosquito was carried out using the Qiagen Blood and Tissue kit (Qiagen) with slight modification. The initial lysis step post homogenization in PBS was carried-out with proteinase K and lysis buffer at 56°C for 3 hr. Genomic DNA extracted was subjected to *COI* (cytochrome C oxidase subunit I) gene amplification using primers reported by Folmer and colleagues (1994) for identification of the mosquito species.

***Wolbachia* detection by PCR**

For *Wolbachia* detection, three different sets of primers targeting conserved genes namely *16S* rRNA gene (Werren & Windsor 2000), *Wolbachia* surface protein (*wsp*) gene (Zhou et al 1998) and *FtsZ* cell cycle gene (Werren & Jaenike 1995) were used for screening. In addition, for low infection detection, a nested PCR using internal primers targeting 412 bp of *16S* rRNA gene was used (Shaw et al 2016). Multilocus strain typing (MLST) of *Wolbachia* was done by targeting five conserved genes *gatB*, *coxA*, *hcpA*, *ftsZ* and *fbpA* as described earlier (Baldo et al 2006). The primer details are given in Supplementary Table 1.

Molecular phylogenetic studies

The *Wolbachia* positive samples were further sequenced. The sequencing was carried out from the PCR products of *16S* rRNA (nested PCR) and *COI* from *Wolbachia* and *Anopheles* respectively and, Sanger sequenced (Barcode Biosciences Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore). The contig assembly was done using MEGA7. The assembled sequences were submitted to GenBank, ENA

Database and accession numbers were obtained. Additional mosquito and *Wolbachia* sp. sequences were collected from GenBank to clarify the interspecies relationship. The phylogenetic tree was constructed by maximum likelihood (ML) analysis in MEGA7 software. The tree inference options were set as follows: Heuristic Method Nearest-Neighbor-Interchange (NNI) with the very strong branch swap filter with 1000 bootstrap replicates, gaps were treated as missing. The number of restriction sites for RsaI was studied using multiple sequence alignment (MSA, Clustal Omega) to find out the supergroups of *Wolbachia* strains reported from this study.

Results:

Mosquito samples were collected from five different study sites (Fig.1). Four hundred and eighty-seven mosquito samples belong to the genus *Anopheles* was screened for the presence of *Wolbachia*. The overall study shows *An. stephensi* (51.75%) population was higher in comparison to *An. culicifacies*. The population of *An. stephensi* was higher in Srivilliputtur (70%), while *An. culicifacies* was higher in Cumbum (69.79%) (Table 1).

To identify the presence of *Wolbachia* endosymbiont in mosquito, the genes *wsp* and *FtsZ* genes (Supplementary Table 1) were amplified; however, no positive results were obtained. MLST by standard primers and protocols did not yield any positive results in all the samples tested (data not shown). Interestingly, nested *16S* PCR amplification targeting the inner region of the *16S* rDNA gene results in positive outcome indicating the presence of *Wolbachia* endosymbiont in *Anopheles* mosquitoes. Out of 487 samples only seven samples i.e., 1.4% were positive for *Wolbachia* endosymbiont, where 3 are from *An. culicifacies* (MN268747, MN268748, MN268749) and 4 from *An. stephensi* (MN268743, MN268744, MN268746 and MN268750) (Table 2). MSA of *Wolbachia* strains reported the presence of four restriction sites (GTAC) for RsaI in agarose gel electrophoresis (data not shown) and *in silico* (Fig.2), indicating the isolates belong to supergroup B.

The phylogenetic analysis showed that all the *Wolbachia* strains reported from this study (Table 3) were grouped under Supergroup B and non-monophyletic (Fig.3). The *Wolbachia* isolates reported from this study showed high sequence similarity within (99.05% to 99.76%)

and also with the reference sequences used in the study. The isolate TS3 (MN268749) formed a separate clade (Clade I) within supergroup B with three other strains reported from *Drosophila simulans* (NC021084.1) and *Drosophila mauritiana* (NZ_CP034334 and NZ_CP034335) supported with 65% bootstrap value (Fig.3). It also shares 98.55% sequence similarity with all the three reference sequences (Supplementary Table 2) and diverse (0.005±0.005; Supplementary Table 3). The sequence of TS4 forms a distinct clade (Clade II) supported by 64% bootstrap value with *Wolbachia* sequence reported from *Aedes albopictus* (CAGB01000162) and *Culex decens* (MK026556 and MK026557) (Fig.3) and, share 99.04% and 98.99% sequence similarity respectively (Supplementary Table 2). No genetic divergence was observed in Clade II (Supplementary Table 3). Rest of the isolates forms a separate clade (Clade III, Fig.3). They shared high similarity ranging from 99.28-98.57%. *Wolbachia* sequence from *Chrysomya megacephala* (NZ_CP021120.1) (Supplementary Table 2) and were less diverse (0.003±0.002) compared to within group Clade I (Supplementary Table 3). The genetic diversity within group of supergroup B was less (0.005±0.003) and there was no significant diversity observed within supergroup A (Supplementary Table 3). The genetic diversity between supergroup A and supergroup B was 0.02±0.01 (Supplementary Table 4a).

All the seven *Wolbachia* positive mosquitoes were amplified using insect *cytochrome C oxidase I* (*COI*) gene (Table 4) and confirmed at species level. The phylogenetic analysis shows there were two clades *An. stephensi* and *An. culicifacies* and, both were supported by 99% bootstrap value (Fig.4). Among the seven *Wolbachia* positive samples, four belongs to *An. stephensi* (LR736010, LR736012, LR736013 and LR736014) and three belongs to *An. culicifacies* s.l. (LR736007 - LR736009) (Table 2). *An. stephensi* showed highest similarity with KX467337, MH538704, KF406680 and NC_028223 (Fig.4) with a high in-group diversity of 0.052±0.01 (Supplementary Table 5). Interestingly, LR736012 has shown to be divergent from other *An. stephensi* reported. *An. culicifacies* showed high similarity with other *An. culicifacies* strains (KR732656, KJ010898, DQ424962, KJ010896) and supported with 92% bootstrap value (Fig.4) and has low diversity (0.035±0.007) within the analyzed group (Supplementary Table 5). The diversity between *An. stephensi* and *An. culicifacies* was high (0.16±0.03, Supplementary Table 6).

Discussion:

The prevalence of *Wolbachia* has been reported in several arthropods including the orders *Coleoptera*, *Diptera*, *Hemiptera*, *Homoptera*, *Hymenoptera*, *Lepidoptera* and *Orthoptera* (de Oliveira et al 2015, Werren et al 1995a). Among the *Diptera*, *Wolbachia* is been reported in several *Culicidae* including *Aedes*, *Culex* and *Coquillettidia* (de Oliveira et al 2015, Ricci et al 2002). Novel *Wolbachia* infection in *Anopheles* species was least reported (de Oliveira et al 2015, Kittayapong et al 2000, Ricci et al 2002). In this study, we report the occurrence of natural *Wolbachia* endosymbiont in wild *An. stephensi* and *An. culicifacies* for the first time.

Diversity of isolated *Wolbachia*:

Wolbachia was identified using *16S* rRNA gene (O'Neill et al 1992, Rousset et al 1992); however fine-scale phylogeny was not possible due to low evolutionary divergence of *16S* rRNA, thus *FtsZ* (Werren et al 1995b) and *wsp* (Zhou et al 1998) genes were used. Several studies reported that *FtsZ* and *wsp* was unsuccessful (Baldini et al 2014, Marcon et al 2011, Wong et al 2020) and, our results are similar where amplification using *wsp* and *Fts*Z primers yielded no positive results. Nested PCR amplification of the inner region of *16S* rRNA was used in case of low-intensity *Wolbachia* infection (Shaw et al 2016) and proved to beneficial in identifying *Wolbachia* infection in *Anopheles* mosquitoes (Baldini et al 2018, Niang et al 2018, Shaw et al 2016, Wong et al 2020); similarly in our study we detected *Wolbachia* from *An. stephensi* and *An. culicifacies*.

Baldo and colleagues (2006) proposed genotyping *Wolbachia* using MLST (*gatB*, *coxA*, *hcpA*, *ftsZ* and *fbpA*). In some cases, MLST in *Wolbachia* were not successful (Baldo et al 2006) possibly due to primer sequence divergence (Gomes et al 2017) and low infection densities (Jeffries et al 2018). Bleidorn and Gerth (2018) have pointed out MLST loci are not suitable markers to study either genome-wide divergence rate or strain identification. However in our study, MLST amplification was unsuccessful and, it might be due to low infection density or primer sequence divergence or both.

Werren and colleagues (1995b) have reported *16S* rRNA can be used to distinguish between A and B supergroup due to the absence of RsaI restriction site in *Wolbachia* belonging

to group A. Interestingly, Pourali and colleagues (2009) have shown the presence of RsaI restriction site in supergroup A; however they have shown there was more RsaI site in B than A. We have performed *in silico* RsaI restriction site search in *16S* rRNA gene on reported *Wolbachia* supergroup A (EU096232, NC_002978.6, NC_012416, KP089991), supergroup B (NC_021984, CAGB01000162, MH967031) and our isolates; supergroup A has two restriction sites for all strains except KP089991 (*Wolbachia* from *An. coluzzii* (Buck et al 2016)) that has three restriction sites, which is possible due to recombination; our isolates and supergroup B shows four restriction sites (Fig.2).

The *16S* rDNA phylogeny shows all the *Wolbachia* isolates from this study belongs to supergroup B and it's non-monophyletic. Similar to our observation, recent reports (Gomes et al 2017, Sawasdichai et al 2019, Wong et al 2020) show supergroup B is polyphyletic. Though our samples are in separate clades, the genetic diversity within the group (Supplementary Table 3) and clades of supergroup B was less (Supplementary Table 4b). This shows that the nucleotide substitution or recombination was minimum in *16S* rRNA gene.

Diversity of *Anopheles* mosquitoes and *Wolbachia* prevalence:

The genus *Anopheles* belongs to the family *Culicidae* that comprises of 465 species further divided into seven subgenera. *Anopheles* is one among the subgenera consists of 182 species (Harbach 2004, Harbach 2013). The molecular phylogeny of *Anopheles* was limited to lower level classification respective to malarial vector and, morphologically defined groups found to be monophyletic (Harbach 2004). Similarly in our study, *An. culicifacies* and *An. stephensi* was first identified morphologically; later identified by *COI* gene amplification and, observed to be monophyletic within their respective species.

To till date, the prevalence of *Wolbachia* has been reported in 20 species of wild *Anopheles* mosquitoes. Baldini and colleagues (2014) for the first time reported *Wolbachia* in wild *An. gambiae* and *An. coluzzii* from Burkina Faso. Later *Wolbachia* was reported in other wild *Anopheles* mosquitoes including *An. gambiae* (different from Burkina Faso (Gomes et al 2017)), *An. arabiensis* (Baldini et al 2018), *An. moucheti*, (Ayala et al 2019, Jeffries et al 2018), *An. funestus* (Niang et al 2018), *An. melas* (Jeffries et al 2019), *An. nili*, *An. coustani* (Ayala et al

2019), *An. maculatus* (*s.s.*), *An. sawadwongporni*, *An. pseudowillmori*, *An. dirus* (*s.s.*), *An. baimaii* (Sawasdichai et al 2019), *An. balabacensis*, *An. latens*, *An. introlatus*, *An. macarthuri*, *An. barbirostris*, *An. hyrcanus* and *An. sinensis* (Wong et al 2020) with our report on additional two species of *Anopheles*, totalling 22 species.

The natural prevalence rate is nil or low in *Anopheles* in comparison to other mosquitoes (Kittayapong et al 2000, Rasgon & Scott 2004, Wong et al 2020). Within *Anopheles* species, the natural *Wolbachia* infection is variable. *An. arabiensis* (Baldini et al 2018, Jeffries et al 2018), *An. coluzzii* (Jeffries et al 2018), *An. funestus* (Niang et al 2018), *An. melas* (Jeffries et al 2019), *An. maculatus* (*s.s.*), *An. sawadwongporni*, *An. pseudowillmori*, *An. dirus* (*s.s.*), *An. baimaii* (Sawasdichai et al 2019), *An. balabacensis*, *An. introlatus*, *An. macarthuri* (Wong et al 2020) shows lesser natural prevalence rate. Higher prevalence rate has been reported from an unknown *Anopheles* species from Sub-Saharan Africa (Jeffries et al 2018), *An. moucheti* (Ayala et al 2019, Jeffries et al 2018), *An. latens*, *An. hyrcanus* and *An. barbirostris* (Wong et al 2020). *An. gambiae* shows variable prevalence rate (Buck et al 2016, Gomes et al 2017, Jeffries et al 2018) and, possibly spatial population dynamics (Buck et al 2016) may play a role in it. We have lesser prevalence of *Wolbachia* in *An. stephensi* (1.19%) and *An. culicifacies* (1.70%) in comparison to all other reported species.

The less prevalence rate of *Wolbachia* in *Anopheles* mosquitoes has raised several questions. Maternal transmission of *Wolbachia* was observed in natural population of *An. gambiae*, *An. coluzzii* and *An. arabiensis* (Baldini et al 2014, Buck et al 2016, Gomes et al 2017, Shaw et al 2016). Experimental evidence points out horizontal transfer of *Wolbachia* in *An. gambiae* (Hughes et al 2014, Hughes et al 2011, Hughes et al 2012), *An. stephensi* (Bian et al 2013, Hughes et al 2014, Joshi et al 2017) and *An. coluzzii* (Shaw et al 2016) is possible; however some results in transient infection as in *An. gambiae* (Hughes et al 2011) than permanent (maternal transmission) as seen in *An. stephensi* (Bian et al 2013, Joshi et al 2017). Evidence suggests that native microbiome in *Anopheles* mosquitoes impedes the vertical transmission of *Wolbachia* (Hughes et al 2014, Jeffries et al 2018, Straub et al 2020). *Asaia*, an acetic acid bacterium inhibits *Wolbachia* maternal transmission (Hughes et al 2014). *Variovorax*, a beta-proteobacteria has been observed in *Wolbachia* negative *An. coluzzii* (Straub et al 2020),

which warrants further research as a competitor to *Wolbachia*. The different *Wolbachia* strains can also differ in their interaction with the host (Hughes et al 2012) probably a reason for lesser prevalence rate. Taken together, prevalence of *Wolbachia* in *Anopheles* mosquito might be subjected to 1) native microbiota interference and 2) *Wolbachia*-host interaction. Since we studied on *Anopheles*, it is possible that native microbiota could interfere in *Wolbachia* colonizing this species leading to lesser prevalence rate; further research will be carried out in the future.

Lateral gene transfer (LGT) of *Wolbachia* genome was observed in *Callosobruchus chinensis* (Kondo et al 2002, Nikoh et al 2008), *Onchocerca volvulus* (Fenn et al 2006) and, *D. ananassae* (Hotopp et al 2007). Incase of mosquitoes, LGT has been observed in *Ae. aegypti*, *Ae. mascarensis* (Klasson et al 2009) and *An. gambiae* (Korochkina et al 2006). Salivary gland surface (*SGS*) genes from *An. gambiae* and *Ae. aegypti* genome is said to be transferred from *Wolbachia* via LGT (Korochkina et al 2006), where these genes are particularly found in female salivary gland; it's expression increase with age, after blood feeding and, facilitates *Plasmodium* sporozoite invasion (King et al 2011, Korochkina et al 2006). However, there is no study on SGS relationship with *Wolbachia* infection. Endogenous bornavirus-like nucleoprotein, a functional protein homologous to Borna virus *nucleoprotein* integrated into *Ictidomys tridecemlineatus* ~8.5 MYA (Suzuki et al 2014) inhibits exogenous Borna virus *in vivo* (Fujino et al 2014). Similarly we hypothesis, *SGS* gene might interfere with *Wolbachia* infection in *Anopheles* mosquitoes leads to less prevalence rate which needs further research.

Chrostek and Gerth (2019) pointed out that true symbiosis has to be established by demonstrating intercellular bacterial cells and intraovarian transmission. To till date, the available techniques are limited and thus addressing the above said factors in wild mosquitoes is quite a challenge, but the future might hold a better way to prove the above said factors in elucidating true symbiosis of *Wolbachia* in wild mosquitoes.

Conclusion:

The current study has shown *Wolbachia* for the first time in *Anopheles* mosquitoes namely *An. culicifacies* and *An. stephensi* from Tamil Nadu, India. Nested *16S* rRNA PCR amplification is

helpful in identification than *wsp*, *FtsZ* and MLST loci genes. The prevalence is lesser compared to other mosquitoes, which may be due to inhibition by native microbiota, host and *Wolbachia* interaction, and/or inhibition by endogenous gene product that result from LGT; these factors will be analyzed in our future research.

Acknowledgements:

SGS would like to acknowledge DST-SERB (YSS/2015/001847) and DHR-HRD (DHR/HRD/YS-14-2015-16) fellowships. The authors acknowledge DBT-BIF Centre, Lady Doak College for providing bioinformatics facility for data analysis.

Author contribution:

Concept, study design and methodology: SGS and APA. Performed lab experiments: TM and APA. Phylogenetic design and analysis: TM, SGS and APA. Pre-draft written: TM, SGS and APA. Critical revision of final version: SGS and APA. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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Figure legends:

Fig.1: Study site from Tamil Nadu

      The map shows the study site at 5 different locations along the foothills of the Western Ghats, Southern India. The five locations were Coimbatore, Pollachi, Palani, Cumbum, Sirvilliputhur and Tenkasi. *An. stephensi* and *An. culicifacies* was populated at all the sites (red circle). The presence of *Wolbachia* was marked in yellow star for *An. stephensi* and green diamond for *An. culicifacies*.

Fig.2: Multiple sequence alignment of *Wolbachia 16S* rRNA sequence

      The *Wolbachia 16S* rRNA sequence was aligned using Clustal O at EMBL-EBI server and edited in JalView. The restriction site of RsaI was highlighted in black. The sequences used are known *Wolbachia* supergroup A (EU096232, NC_002978.6, NC_012416, KP089991), supergroup B (NC_021984, CAGB01000162, MH967031), outgroup *Ricketssia* (CP003319, NR_074459.2) and our isolates. The restriction sites show our isolates belong to supergroup B with four restriction sites. Supergroup A consists of two restriction sites and, *Ricketssia* consists of a single restriction site.

Fig.3: Molecular phylogenetic analysis of *Wolbachia*

      The phylogeny was inferred from the nucleotide dataset of *16S* rRNA gene by using the ML method. The sequences from this study were represented in red font. The tree with the highest log likelihood (-290.81) is shown. The analysis involved 44 nucleotide sequences. There were a total of 120 positions in the final dataset. Scale bar 0.02 represents nucleotides substitution per position.

Fig.4: Molecular phylogenetic analysis of *Anopheles* mosquitoes

      The phylogeny was inferred from the nucleotide dataset of *COI* gene by using the ML method. The sequences from this study were represented as green diamond. The tree with the highest log likelihood (-1429.44) is shown. The analysis involved 19 nucleotide sequences. There were a total of 396 positions in the final dataset. Scale bar 0.05 represents nucleotides substitution per position.

Table 1: Collection of mosquito samples from different locations

Place	*An. culicifacies*		*An. stephensi*	
	Collected (%*)	*Wolbachia* positive (%[#])	Collected (%*)	*Wolbachia* positive (%[#])
Coimabtore	38 (45.24)	1 (2.63)	46 (54.76)	1 (2.17)
Pollachi	48 (38.71)	1 (2.08)	76 (61.29)	0
Cumbum	67 (69.79)	1 (1.49)	29 (30.21)	1 (3.44)
Srivillputtur	21 (30.00)	1 (4.76)	49 (70.00)	0
Tenkasi	61 (53.98)	0	52 (46.02)	1 (1.92)
Total	235 (48.25)	4 (1.70)	252 (51.75)	3 (1.19)

*Percentage from total mosquitoes collected
[#]Percentage of *Wolbachia* positive within species

Table 2: The host and the *Wolbachia* endosymbiont isolate ID and sequence accession number

Host	Isolate ID	Mosquito sequence Accession No.	*Wolbachia* sequence Accession No.
Anopheles culicifacies	TS1	LR736007	MN268747
Anopheles culicifacies	TS2	LR736008	MN268748
Anopheles culicifacies	TS3	LR736009	MN268749
Anopheles stephensi	TS4	LR736010	MN268750
Anopheles stephensi	AE4	LR736012	MN268743
Anopheles stephensi	AE5	LR736013	MN268744
Anopheles stephensi	AE6	LR736014	MN268746

Table 3: Sequences used for *Wolbachia* phylogeny

S. No	Accession No	Source organism	Isolate /Strain Id	Used sequence	Year of isolation	Country
1.	CAGB01000162	*Aedes albopictus*	wAlbB	Whole genome	2011	France
2.	CP003319	*Rickettsia massiliae*	AZT80	Complete genome	2012	USA
3.	EU096232	*Drosophila*	EW-p	16S rRNA partial sequence	2007	South Korea
4.	KP089991	*Anopheles coluzzii*	VK5_8.1.1	16S rRNA partial sequence	2012	Burkina Faso
5.	MH596693	*Anopheles arabiensis*	isolate 3	16S rRNA partial sequence	2018	Tanzania
6.	MH596694	*Anopheles arabiensis*	isolate 7	16S rRNA partial sequence	2018	Tanzania
7.	MH596695	*Anopheles arabiensis*	isolate 13	16S rRNA partial sequence	2018	Tanzania
8.	MH596696	*Anopheles arabiensis*	isolate 15	16S rRNA partial sequence	2018	Tanzania
9.	MH596697	*Anopheles arabiensis*	isolate 19	16S rRNA partial sequence	2018	Tanzania
10.	MH596698	*Anopheles arabiensis*	isolate 40	16S rRNA partial sequence	2018	Tanzania
11.	MH596699	*Anopheles arabiensis*	isolate 55	16S rRNA partial sequence	2018	Tanzania
12.	MH596700	*Anopheles arabiensis*	isolate 63	16S rRNA partial sequence	2018	Tanzania
13.	MH596701	*Anopheles arabiensis*	isolate 137	16S rRNA partial sequence	2018	Tanzania
14.	MH596702	*Anopheles arabiensis*	isolate 138	16S rRNA partial sequence	2018	Tanzania
15.	MH596703	*Anopheles arabiensis*	isolate 140	16S rRNA partial sequence	2018	Tanzania
16.	MK026554	*Aedeomyia madagascarica*	TSA-AMAD-1	16S rRNA partial sequence	2016	Madagascar
17.	MK026555	*Culex antennatus*	TSA-CANT-1	16S rRNA partial sequence	2016	Madagascar
18.	MK026556	*Culex decens*	TSA-CDEC-1	16S rRNA partial sequence	2016	Madagascar
19.	MK026557	*Culex decens*	TSA-CDEC-2	16S rRNA partial sequence	2016	Madagascar
20.	MK026558	*Culex duttoni*	TSA-CDUT-1	16S rRNA partial sequence	2016	Madagascar
21.	MK026559	*Mansonia uniformis*	TSA-MUNI-1	16S rRNA partial sequence	2016	Madagascar
22.	MK026560	*Uranotaenia sp.*	ANI-USP1-1	16S rRNA partial sequence	2016	Madagascar
23.	MK026561	*Uranotaenia sp.*	TSA-USP1-1	16S rRNA partial sequence	2016	Madagascar
24.	MK026562	*Uranotaenia sp.*	TSA-USP2-1	16S rRNA partial sequence	2016	Madagascar
25.	MK026563	*Uranotaenia sp.*	TSA-USP2-2	16S rRNA partial sequence	2016	Madagascar
26.	MN268743	*Anopheles stephensi*	AE4	16S rRNA partial sequence	2017	India*
27.	MN268744	*Anopheles stephensi*	AE5	16S rRNA partial sequence	2017	India*

28.	MN268746	*Anopheles stephensi*	AE6	16S rRNA partial sequence	2017	India*
29.	MN268747	*Anopheles culicifacies*	TS1	16S rRNA partial sequence	2017	India*
30.	MN268748	*Anopheles culicifacies*	TS2	16S rRNA partial sequence	2017	India*
31.	MN268749	*Anopheles culicifacies*	TS3	16S rRNA partial sequence	2017	India*
32.	MN268750	*Anopheles stephensi*	TS4	16S rRNA partial sequence	2017	India*
33.	NC_002978	*Drosophila melanogaster*	wMel	Complete genome	2003	USA
34.	NC_012416	*Drosophila simulans*	wRi	Complete genome	2009	Sweden
35.	NC_021084	*Drosophila simulans*	wNo	Complete genome	2012	Sweden
36.	NR_074459	*Rickettsia japonica*	YH	16S rRNA partial sequence	2013	USA
37.	NZ_CP021120	*Chrysomyamegacephala*	wMeg	Complete genome	2015	Brazil
38.	NZ_CP034334	*Drosophila mauritiana*	wMau	Complete genome	2018	USA
39.	NZ_CP034335	*Drosophila mauritiana*	wMau	Complete genome	2018	USA
40.	NZ_CP041215	*Carposina sasakii*	wCauA	Complete genome	2017	China
41.	NZ_CP042444	*Drosophila melanogaster*	wMel_I23	Complete genome	2019	USA
42.	NZ_CP042445	*Drosophila melanogaster*	wMel_ZH26	Complete genome	2019	USA
43.	NZ_CP042446	*Drosophila melanogaster*	wMel_N25	Complete genome	2019	USA
44.	NZ_CP042904	*Drosophila ananassae*	W2.1	Complete genome	2019	USA

*this study

Table 4: Sequences used for *Anopheles* mosquito phylogeny

S.No.	Accession No.	Source organism	Isolate/Strain Id	Used sequence	Year of isolation	Country
1.	LR736007	*Anopheles culicifacies*	TS1	COI gene, partial cds; mitochondrial	2017	India*
2.	LR736008	*Anopheles culicifacies*	TS2	COI gene, partial cds; mitochondrial	2017	India*
3.	LR736009	*Anopheles culicifacies*	TS3	COI gene, partial cds; mitochondrial	2017	India*
4.	LR736010	*Anopheles stephensi*	TS4	COI gene, partial cds; mitochondrial	2017	India*
5.	LR736012	*Anopheles stephensi*	AE4	COI gene, partial cds; mitochondrial	2017	India*
6.	LR736013	*Anopheles stephensi*	AE5	COI gene, partial cds; mitochondrial	2017	India*
7.	LR736014	*Anopheles stephensi*	AE6	COI gene, partial cds; mitochondrial	2017	India*
8.	NC_028223	*Anopheles stephensi*	ASTEP20150811V3	Mitochondrion, complete genome	2015	USA
9.	MH538704	*Anopheles stephensi*	voucher BUZOOT	COI gene, partial cds; mitochondrial	2018	India
10.	KX467337	*Anopheles stephensi*	voucher MOSQ02-16	COX1 gene, partial cds; mitochondrial		India
11.	KF406680	*Anopheles stephensi*	voucher NIBGE DIP-00281	COI gene, partial cds; mitochondrial	2007	Pakistan
12.	NC_028216	*Anopheles culicifacies*	voucher ACUL20150811V4	Mitochondrion, complete genome	2015	USA
13.	KR732656	*Anopheles culicifacies*	isolate B	Mitochondrion, complete genome	2015	China
14.	KJ010898	*Anopheles culicifacies*	voucher UNB-04	CO1 gene, partial cds; mitochondrial	2013	UK
15.	DQ424962	*Anopheles culicifacies*	-	COI) gene, partial cds; mitochondrial	2006	India
16.	KR817729	*Anopheles culicifacies*	voucher BUZOO-M-Ac	COI gene, partial cds; mitochondrial	2015	India
17.	KJ010896	*Anopheles culicifacies*	voucher F04	COI gene, partial cds; mitochondrial	2013	Srilanka
18.	KJ010892	*Anopheles culicifacies*	voucher H06	CO1 gene, partial cds; mitochondrial	2013	Srilanka
19.	NC_035159	*Aedes aegypti*	strain LVP_AGWG	Mitochondrion, complete genome	2017	USA

*this study

MK026556.1 Wolbachia - Culex dutioni
MH596699.1 Wolbachia - Anopheles arabiensis
MH596998.1 Wolbachia - Anopheles arabiensis
MH596693.1 Wolbachia - Anopheles arabiensis
MH596697.1 Wolbachia - Anopheles arabiensis
MH596700.1 Wolbachia - Anopheles arabiensis
MH596701.1 Wolbachia - Anopheles arabiensis
MH596702.1 Wolbachia - Anopheles arabiensis
MH596703.1 Wolbachia - Anopheles arabiensis
MK026554.1 Wolbachia - Aedeomyia madagascarica
MK026585.1 Wolbachia - Culex antennatus
MK026559.1 Wolbachia - Mansonia uniformis
MK026562.1 Wolbachia - Uranotaenia sp.
MK026587.1 Wolbachia - Uranotaenia sp.   Clade III
MN268743 Wolbachia - Anopheles stephensi AE4
MN268744 Wolbachia - Anopheles stephensi AE3
MN268745 Wolbachia - Anopheles stephensi AE6
MN268746 Wolbachia - Anopheles stephensi AE5
MN268747 Wolbachia - Anopheles stephensi AE1
NZ CP021126.1 Wolbachia - Chrysomya megacephala
MN268748 Wolbachia - Anopheles culicifacies TS2
CAGB01000162.1 Wolbachia pipientis wAlbB - Aedes albopictus
MN268742 Wolbachia - Anopheles stephensi TS4   Clade II
MK026557.1 Wolbachia - Culex decens
NZ CP034335.1 Wolbachia pipientis wAlbB - Aedes albopictus
MN268750 Wolbachia - Anopheles stephensi TS4
NZ CP034334.1 Wolbachia wMau - Drosophila mauritiana
NZ LK055841.1 Wolbachia wMau - Drosophila mauritiana   Clade I
NC 021084.1 Wolbachia wNo - Drosophila simulans
MN268749 Wolbachia - Anopheles culicifacies TS3
MH596695.1 Wolbachia - Anopheles arabiensis
NZ CP042864.1 Wolbachia pipientis ananassae
NZ CP042446.1 Wolbachia pipientis wMel N25 - Drosophila melanogaster
NZ CP042445.1 Wolbachia pipientis wMel ZH26 - Drosophila melanogaster
NZ CP042444.1 Wolbachia pipientis wMel i23 - Drosophila melanogaster
NZ CP042443.1 Wolbachia pipientis wMel - Carpoiska sasakii
NC 012416.1 Wolbachia sp. wRi - Drosophila simulans
NC 002978.6 Wolbachia wMel - Drosophila melanogaster
MK026561.1 Wolbachia - Uranotaenia sp.
MK026560.1 Wolbachia - Uranotaenia sp.
MH596698.1 Wolbachia - Anopheles arabiensis
MH596694.1 Wolbachia - Anopheles arabiensis
KP059991.1 Wolbachia - Anopheles coluzzii
EU396232.1 Wolbachia pipientis EW-y - Drosophila
CP003319.1 Rickettsia rossiliae
NR 074459.2 Rickettsia japonica

Supergroup B

Clade II

Supergroup A

Outgroup - Rickettsia

0.02

- KR732656 Anopheles culicifacies CN
- KJ010898 Anopheles culicifacies UNK-34 SL
- DQ424962 Anopheles culicifacies IN
- KJ010896 Anopheles culicifacies F04 SL
- LR738597 Anopheles culicifacies TS1 IN
- LR738598 Anopheles culicifacies TS2 IN
- KJ010892 Anopheles culicifacies H06 SL
- LR739009 Anopheles culicifacies KS1 IN
- KR817729 Anopheles culicifacies BUZOO-M-Ac IN
- NC 028216 Anopheles culicifacies ACUL2016061V4
- KT899210 Anopheles stephensi MO9082-1b IN
- KX838704 Anopheles stephensi BUZOO7-As IN
- LR739014 Anopheles stephensi KS2 IN
- LR738599 Anopheles stephensi AES IN
- LR738600 Anopheles stephensi AES2 IN
- LR739013 Anopheles stephensi KS2 IN
- LR738601 Anopheles stephensi N85E DIP-00281 PA
- NC 028215 Anopheles stephensi ASTEP2016081V3
- LR738012 Anopheles stephensi AE4 IN

Anopheles culicifacies

Anopheles stephensi

- NC 028109 Aedes aegypti LVP AGWG

Outgroup

0.05