

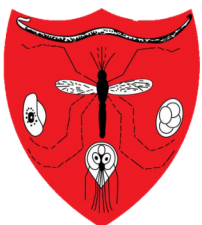
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Cover Illustration

Flying Without Wings

By Dr. Tan Li Peng, Universiti Kelantan Malaysia, Malaysia

This photograph captures the slender pigeon louse (*Columbicola* sp.), which is born without wings, unlike typical winged insects. Nevertheless, they have found a way to “fly” through the world. These tiny parasites are perfectly adapted to co-exist with just four species of pigeons. Their lives are intricately linked to their hosts, yet their reach is vast, spanning every continent except Antarctica. Even the tiniest wingless creatures can thrive globally through their hosts, showcasing resilience, adaptation, and the power of co-evolution.

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TROPICAL BIOMEDICINE

VOL. 43, NO. 2

Molecular detection and cox1-based phylogenetic analysis of <i>Strongyloides stercoralis</i> in fresh vegetables from lower northern Thailand	142
Molee, W.P., Vitta, A., Prasertsri, T. and Bansra, T.	
Prevalence, risk factor, control and dwelling of <i>Ascaridia galli</i> in the gut of chickens	151
Khan, N., Khan, W., Ali, W., Shoaib, M., Anisuzzaman, Abebe, R., Chaves, B.S., Vasconcelos, V.S., Paludo, R.L.R. and Ramos, D.G.S.	
A soft tissue lesion on the scalp as a peculiar source of disseminated cryptococcosis	159
Ding, C.H., Wahab, A.A., Abd Rahman, N.A., Zaihan, S., Abd Shukor, N., Periyasamy, P., Cheong, X.K. and Mokhtar, M.N.	
High genetic diversity and cryptic lineages in three <i>Tabanus</i> species (Diptera: Tabanidae) from Northeastern Thailand	163
Wannasingha, W., Gomontean, B., Wongpakam, K., Thanee, I., Chatan, W., Vaisusuk, K. and Pramual, P.	
Prospective surveillance of <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i> bacteremia (SAB) using <i>spa</i> typing to identify MRSA transmission in a tertiary care setting	174
Amelia, S., Santosaningsih, D., Kusumawati, R.L., Hamid, R.Z., Zulham, E., Eyoer, P.C., Rozi, M.F. and Syamira, N.A.	
Diagnostic agreement between Simplexa direct real-time PCR and conventional nested PCR for detecting congenital cytomegalovirus in neonatal urine in Indonesia	180
Pamungkas, J., Wardhani, P., Husada, D., Ernawati, Purnami, N. and Fitriah, M.	
Molecular detection of zoonotic <i>Blastocystis</i> subtypes in urban rats from Pulau Pinang, Malaysia	185
Chin, Y.N., Perison, P.W.D., Sebastian, L., Azlinda, A.B. and Farah Haziqah, M.T.	
16S rRNA profiling of bacterial communities in the brown dog tick <i>Rhipicephalus linnaei</i> from stray dogs in Perak, Malaysia	191
Azhar, A.A., Zahanuddin, A., Ya'cob, Z., Lau, Y.L. and Mokhtar, A.S.	
Preliminary short-term establishment and replication kinetics of a flea-derived <i>Wolbachia</i> strain in an <i>Aedes albopictus</i> cell line	198
Bahrain, N.N.K., Hassandarvish, P., Loong, S.K., Husin, N.A., Zulkifli, M.M.S., Khoo, J.J., Bell-Sakyi, L., Ya'cob, Z., AbuBakar, S., Low, V.L. and Sahimin, N.	
The 24-hour crisis: rapidly fatal cerebral malaria due to <i>Plasmodium knowlesi</i> complicated by acute pontine infarction	207
Saripudin, M.H., Mokhtar, M.F. and Mohd Nor, F.	
Temporal and spatial distribution of dengue in an urban setting: evidence from Hanoi, Vietnam (2018-2022)	211
Bui, V.H., Nguyen, H.N., Le, M.D., Hoang, N.S., Nguyen, V.K., Vu, K.T. and Nguyen, V.A.	
Unmasking <i>Bartonella henselae</i> : A forgotten cause of hepatosplenic and marrow involvement	219
Zainulabid, U.A., Cheong, X.K., Kori, N., Kueh, J.W.T., Mohamed Rose, I., Ramli, R., Abdul Muien, M.Z., Periyasamy, P. and Ramli, S.R.	
Immune dysregulation in herpes zoster: A correlative study of TLR7 gene expression, IFN- α , and CD4/CD8 T-cell	223
Alag, R.N., Al-Hmudi, H.A. and Al-Mishry, M.K.	
Resistance profiling of <i>Aedes aegypti</i> using intensity concentrations enhances the evaluation of insecticide effectiveness for vector control	231
Rosilawati, R., Norlaili, M., Shazreena, R., Farah Diana, A., Nur Amalina, K., Abdul Razak, S. and Wan, K.L.	
Seroprevalence and factors associated with leptospirosis among market traders in Kudat town, Sabah: A cross-sectional study	238
Marcel, D., Atil, A., Ali, M.R.M., Ahmed, K., Othman, R. and Jeffree, M.S.	