

5. Services and supplies

5.1. Rearing and colonization.

Arthropod colonies

Cyclic colonies of the following species of insects are being maintained in the rearing and colonization laboratory.

Mosquitoes (Diptera: Culicidae)

Culex quinquefasciatus

Anopheles stephensi

Aedes aegypti

Toxorhynchites splendens

House flies ((Diptera: Muscidae)

Musca domestica

Parasitoids (Hymenoptera:Chalcidae)
& Pteromalidae

Dirhinius himalayanus

Spalangia sp.

Pachycrepoides sp.

The following three species of larvivorous fishes are also being maintained in the centre.

Aplocheilus blochi

Gambusia affinis

Poecilia reticulata

Supplies from Rearing & Colonization Services to various laboratories in VCRC and outside institution are given in Table 21.

Table 21. Supplies from Rearing & Colonization Division to different laboratories

Species / stage	Internal (within VCRC)				External		Total
	Vector Biology & Control	Unit of Microbiology & Immunology	Unit of Molecular Biology & Bioinformatics	Human Resource Development	Pondicherry University	Filaria Control Unit (for Exhibition)	
<i>Culex quinquefasciatus</i>							
Immature	3600	99370	100	6500	1000	100	110670
Adults	100	38925	21000	2250	--	100	62375
<i>Anopheles stephensi</i>							
Immature	2025	18300	--	5500	1000	100	26925
Adults	3645	200	--	--	--	100	3945
<i>Aedes aegypti</i>							
Immature	1525	8600	--	10100	100	100	20425
Adults	50	50	--	200	--	100	400

5.2. Laboratory animal facility

The Centre has a laboratory animal facility registered with the Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA), Government of India. It has animals such as Mongolian gerbils (33), Wistar rats (19), BALB/c mice (87), and Swiss albino mice (10). These animals are being maintained and used for experiments as per the guidelines of the CPSEA. During 2005 four projects cleared by the Institutional Animal Ethical Committee for use of animals for experiments were being carried out, viz. (i) Purification and characterization of mosquitocidal protein from *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, (ii) Production of antibodies against mosquitocidal proteins of bacterial agents, B471 and B469, using cell line/egg-yolk culture for their immunological characterization, (iii) Cloning and characterization of metallo-proteinase from *Wuchereria bancrofti*, and (iv) Role of lipid binding allergen proteins of *Wuchereria bancrofti* in the pathogenesis of lymphatic filariasis.

5.3. Clinical Services

All the individual patients with lymphoedema attending the clinic at VCRC and Cluny Hospital were given orientation about limb hygiene for home based self-care. Apart from this, supportive physiotherapy and drugs for symptomatic relief were provided. During the reporting period, 3467 patients availed the clinical service (Table 22). A total of 188 patients were examined for circulating filaria antigen (CFA) by Og4C3 assay and 160 (85.1%) was found to be positive for CFA. ICT was done for 56 patients and 7 (12.5%) were found positive. Night blood smear examination for Mf was done for 845 persons and 16 were positive.

Table 22. Type and number of patients to whom clinical services were provided

Type of clinical case	Number of Patients				Total number of visits	
	First visit		Repeat visit		VCRC	Cluny
	VCRC	Cluny	VCRC	Cluny		
Lymph oedema (LO) Grade-I	9	2	57	0	66	2
LO Grade-II	43	4	701	615	744	619
LO Grade-III	24	5	940	633	964	638
LO Grade-IV	6	2	198	0	204	2
Hydrocele	4	0	0	0	4	0
Others	126	0	98	0	224	0
Total	212	13	1994	1248	2206	1261

5.4. Library services

Specialized services provided by the VCRC library

Searchable 4.8 lakh records with abstracts on vector-borne diseases

10000 full text pdf article databank on malaria, filariasis, dengue and integrated control of mosquitoes.

E-mail addresses of the scientist working on malaria, filariasis and dengue.

Instructions to authors and latest impact factors for publication in Indian and international journals in the field of tropical diseases are available.

Searchable electronic version of all VCRC publications, miscellaneous reports, and annual reports.

Research output Analysis of VCRC publications from the year 2000 to 2005 (Figure 70).

Figure 70. Research output Analysis of VCRC Publications

