

## First record of *Anopheles aquasalis* associated with malaria transmission in a community in Buriticupu municipality, Maranhão state, Brazil

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**ABSTRACT:**

*Anopheles aquasalis* is an important malaria vector in the northwestern coast of Brazil and is currently found in the intra continental regions. Insect studies were conducted in the Buriticupu municipality, Maranhão state, Brazil in the period of 2006 to 2011 between 6:00 h and 18:00 h comprising three environment types viz., intra, peri and extradomicile; with the objective of assessing the presence of anophelines related to malaria transmission. A total of 17 individuals of *Anopheles aquasalis* were collected in the area. We conclude that this species dispersed to the intracontinental region, in an area 300 km distant from the coastal belt.

**Keywords:**

Mosquito, vector, dispersion.