# Mosquitoes reared in distinct insectaries within an institution in close spatial proximity possess significantly divergent microbiomes

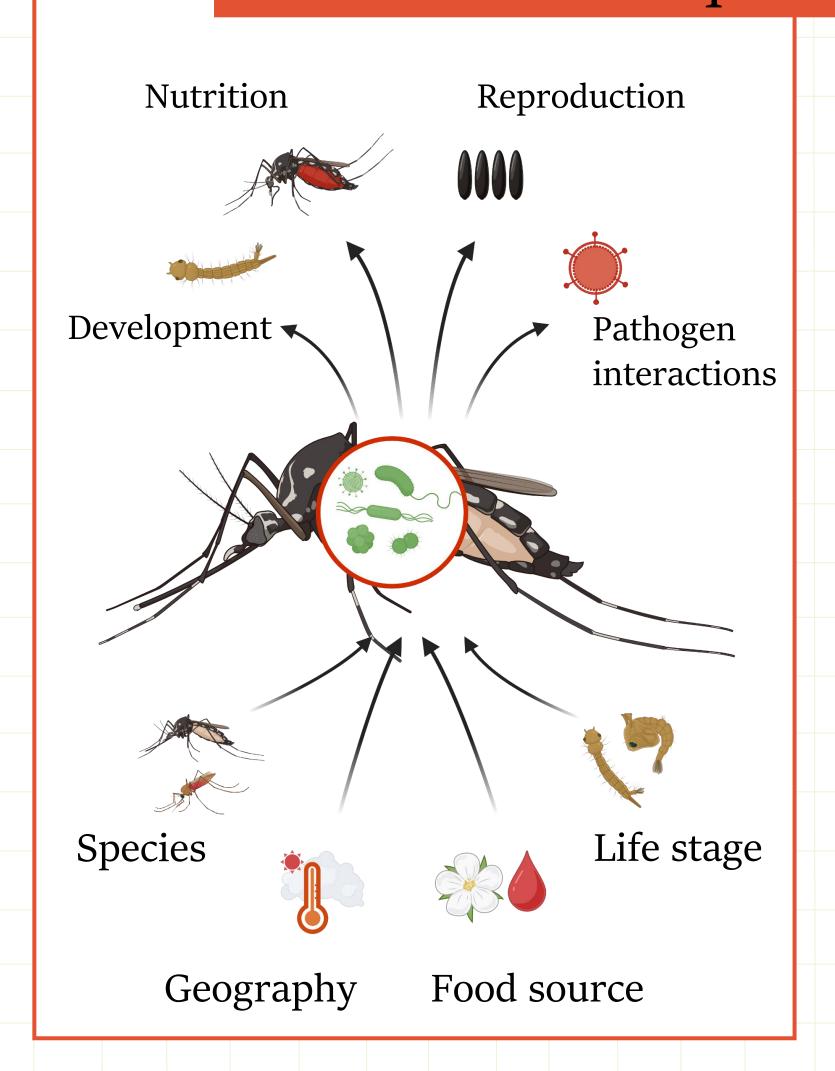


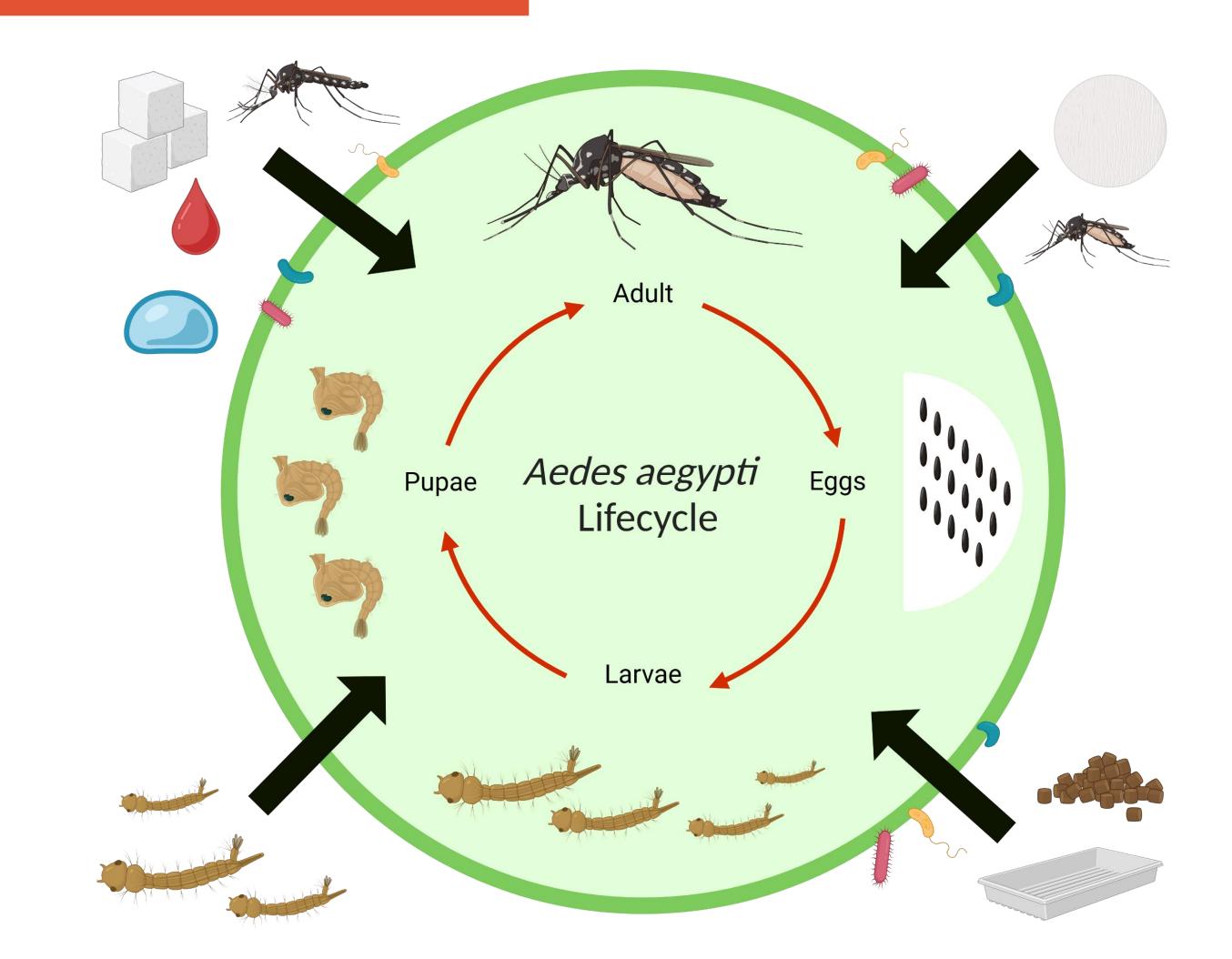


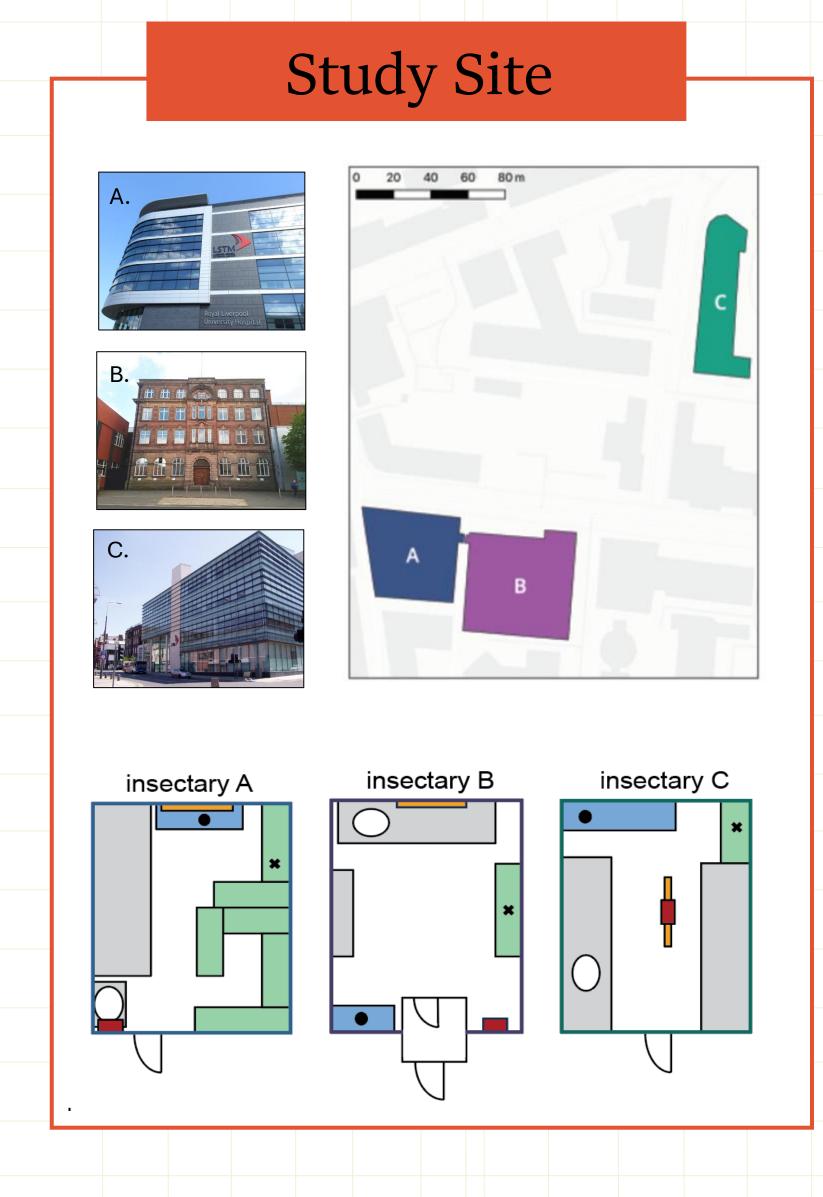
Tara S. Joseph¹, Laura E. Brettell¹², Ananya F. Hoque¹³, Vishaal Dhokiya¹, Emily A. Hornett¹³, Grant L. Hughes¹⁵, Eva Heinz¹⁵

¹Department of Vector biology, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK, ²School of Science, Engineering and Environment, University of Salford, UK, ³The Roslin Institute, Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, The University of Edinburgh, UK, ⁴Department of Evolution, Ecology and Behaviour, University of Liverpool, UK, ⁵Department of Tropical Disease Biology, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK, ⁶Department of Clinical Sciences, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK, ⁶Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences, University of Strathclyde, UK.

# The Mosquito Microbiome

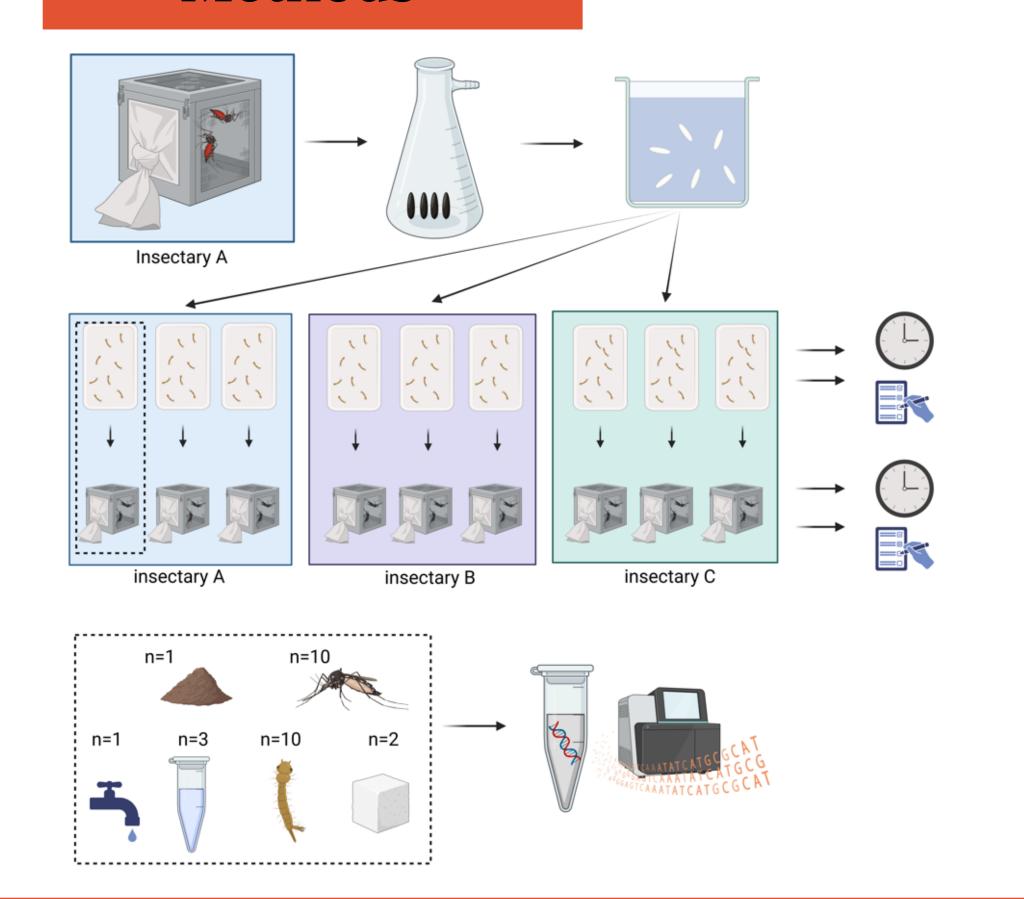






Results

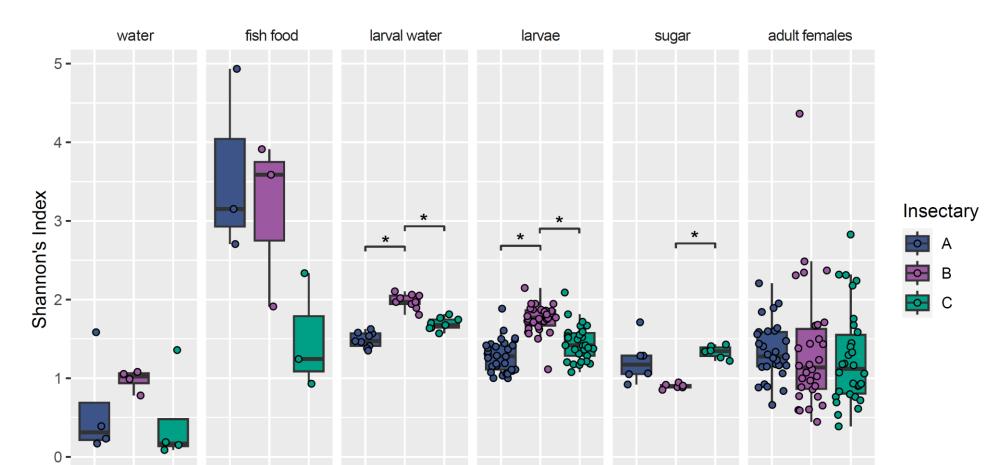
#### Methods



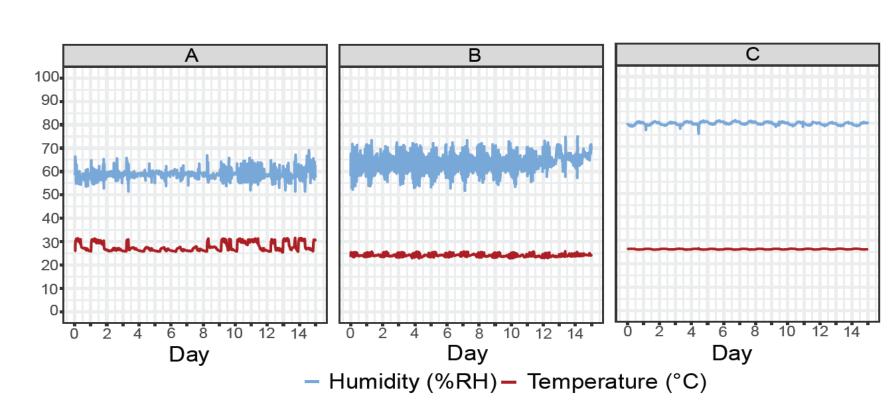
## 1. Mosquitoes varied in their microbiome diversity

Larvae and larval water samples showed statistically significant pairwise differences.

Significant differences are seen in the sugar solution samples which feed the microbiome of adults. This suggests an inability for some of these microbes to colonise the adult gut microbiome.



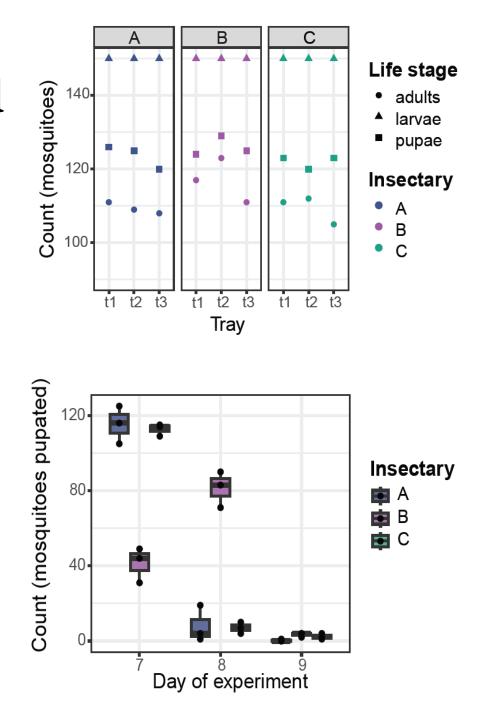
### Environmental Conditions



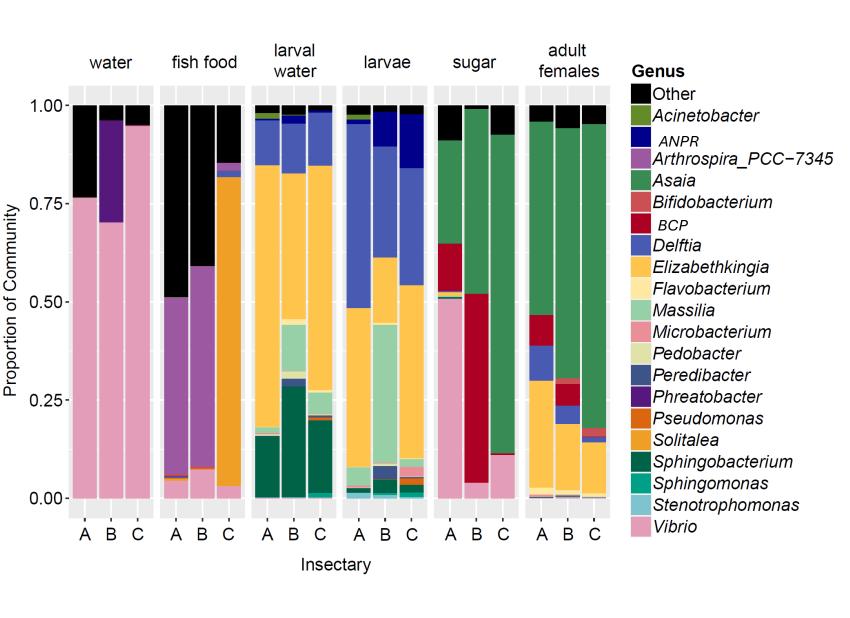
# Temperature and humidity stability varied

No significant changes were found within mosquito development. However, there is a notable change in the pupation time of insectary B with the majority of larvae pupating a day late.





#### 2. Relative abundances varied between insectaries



Larvae and larval water samples were similar in composition, being dominated by *Delftia* and *Elizabethkingia*. Samples from adult female mosquitoes were dominated by *Asaia* and *Elizabethkingia*. The sugar samples also contained a high proportion of *Asaia*.

While the different sample types were compositionally similar, the relative abundances of these genera varied by insectary.

#### 3. Patterns confirmed at ASV level

The ASV data revealed differences that were not apparent at the genus level.

One *Asaia* ASV was present in adult and sugar samples from insectary C, but not present in others. An ASV within the Enterobacteriaceae was common in samples from insectary C but reduced in Insectary A, and absent in B.

