

# **Morphometric description of sandflies belong to genus *Sergentomyia* (*Sergentomyia*) (Diptera; Psychodidae; Phlebotominae) in Sri Lanka; evidence for the presence of *Sergentomyia* (*Sergentomyia*) *pondicherriensis* and *Sergentomyia* (*Sergentomyia*) *dentata* in the country**

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## **Abstract**

Leishmaniasis, mainly a zoonotic disease vectored by sand flies, emerges as major public health concern in Sri Lanka. The role of the old world sandfly genus *Sergentomyia* in the disease transmission is emphasized in recent findings. Seven species belong to the subgenus *Sergentomyia* of this genus have been reported globally. Only one (*Sergentomyia* (*Sergentomyia*) *punjabiensis*) has been recorded so far from Sri Lanka. Three species viz. *Se.* (*Ser.*) *punjabiensis*, *Se.* (*Ser.*) *pondicherriensis* and *Se.* (*Ser.*) *dentata* were identified in a collection from three Cutaneous Leishmaniasis (CL) endemic localities in Sri Lanka. This is the first record of the presence of *Se.* (*Ser.*) *pondicherriensis* and *Se.* (*Ser.*) *dentata* from the country. The detail morphology of both sexes are described along with the comparison with the existing literatures from the oriental region.

## **Author keywords**

Leishmaniasis; Sandflies; *Sergentomyia*; Sri Lanka; Zoonotic disease

## **Indexed keywords**

**Species Index:** Diptera; Phlebotominae; Psychodidae; *Sergentomyia*; *Sergentomyia dentata*