



Male Mosquitoes with Bloodsucking Behavior

Recently, Scientists unearthed the **oldest-known mosquito fossils**, dating back 130 million years, has revealed the **bloodsucking behavior in ancient males**. These fossils provide insights into the evolutionary history of mosquitoes and their role as **disease vectors**.

- The fossils represent **two male mosquitoes from the Cretaceous Period**, possessing **elongated piercing-sucking mouthparts** typically seen only in females.
 - This discovery suggests that originally all mosquitoes were **hematophagous (blood-eaters), regardless of their gender**.
 - The male mosquitoes' mouthparts were shorter than those of modern female mosquitoes.
- Mosquitoes are blood-feeders and **transmit parasites and diseases to their hosts**, including [malaria](#), [yellow fever](#), [Zika fever](#), and [dengue](#).
- The researchers hypothesize that mosquitoes evolved from insects that did not consume blood, with their mouthparts initially adapted for **piercing plants to access nutritious fluids**.
 - The appearance of flowering plants during the Cretaceous Period may have played a role in the divergence of **feeding behaviour between male and female mosquitoes**.
- Mosquitoes likely originated millions of years earlier than the discovered fossils, with molecular evidence suggesting their existence during the [Jurassic Period](#).

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