

**Parasitic Helminths  
and  
Arthropod Agents  
and Vectors of  
Diseases**

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# Parasitic Helminths and Arthropod Agents and Vectors of Diseases

## Objectives:

By the end of this lecture the student should be able to :

- Name the three main groups of parasitic helminths and their characteristic morphological features .
- Describe the life cycle of **Ascaris lumbricoides** as an example of parasitic helminths .
- Discuss the role of arthropods as agents and as vectors of diseases in humans.
- Give examples of the main arthropod vectors of diseases.

# Classification of Parasites

Protozoa	Helminthes
<p><b>Unicellular</b> Single cell for all function</p>	<p><b>Mulicellular</b> Specialized cells</p>
<p><b>Amoebae:</b> move by pseudopodia.</p> <p><b>Flagellates:</b> move by flagella.</p> <p><b>Ciliates :</b> move by cilia</p> <p><b>Apicomplexia</b> (sporozoa) Tissue parasites</p>	<p><b>A- <u>Round worms</u> = Nematodes</b> cylindrical, un-segmented(Ascaris)</p> <p><b>B- <u>Flat worms</u></b></p> <p><b>1-Trematodes:</b> leaf-like, un-segmented.</p> <p><b>2-Cestodes:</b> tape-like, segmented</p>

# Location of helminthes in the body:

- Intestinal helminthes:
- Tissue helminthes:

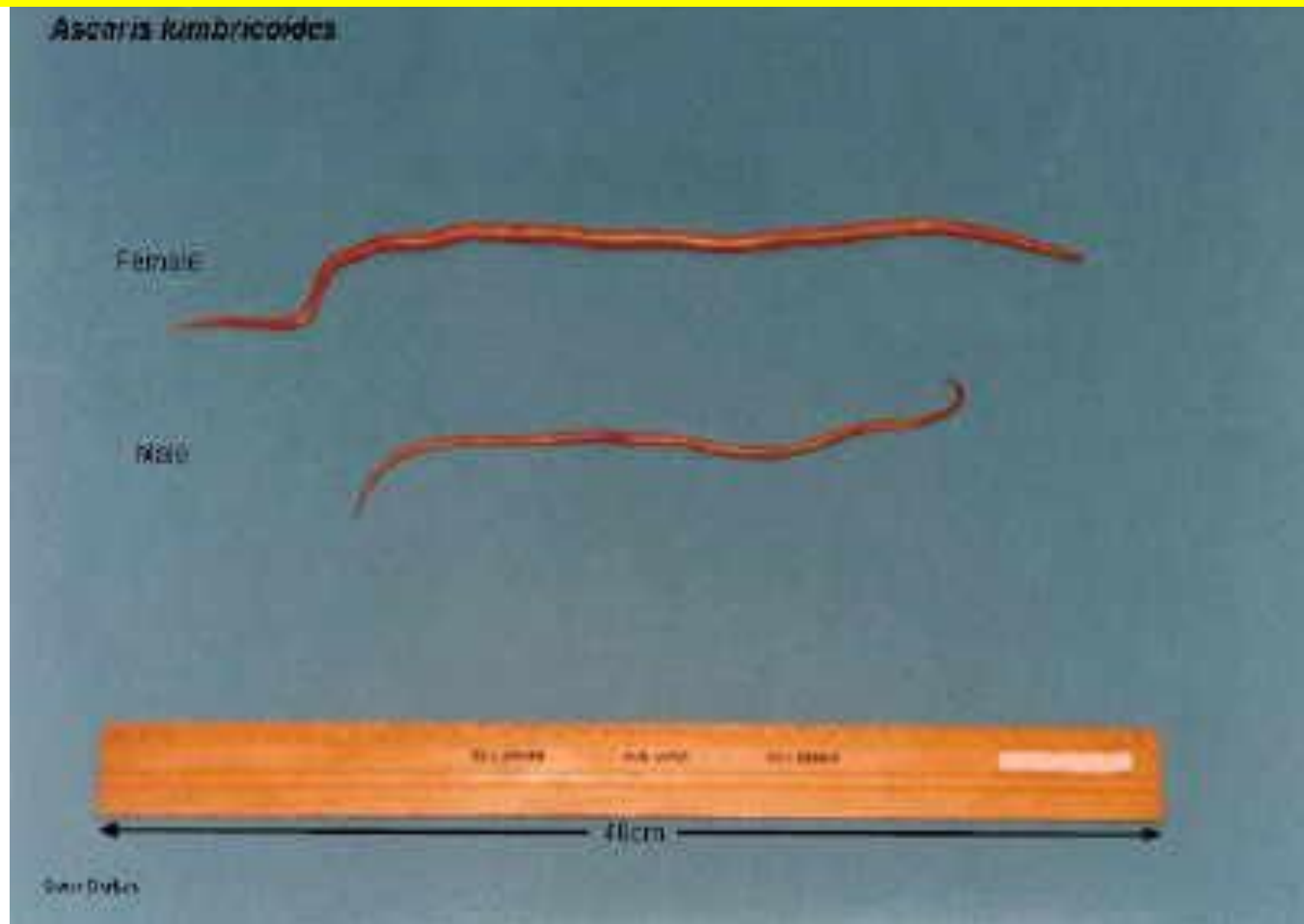
# **Nematodes (round worm) intestinal Nematode**

## **General features**

- 1. Elongated worm, cylindrical, unsegmented and tapering at both ends.**
- 2. Variable in size, measure <1 cm to about 100cm.**
- 3. Sex separate and male is smaller than female**



# *Ascaris lumbricoides* (roundworm)



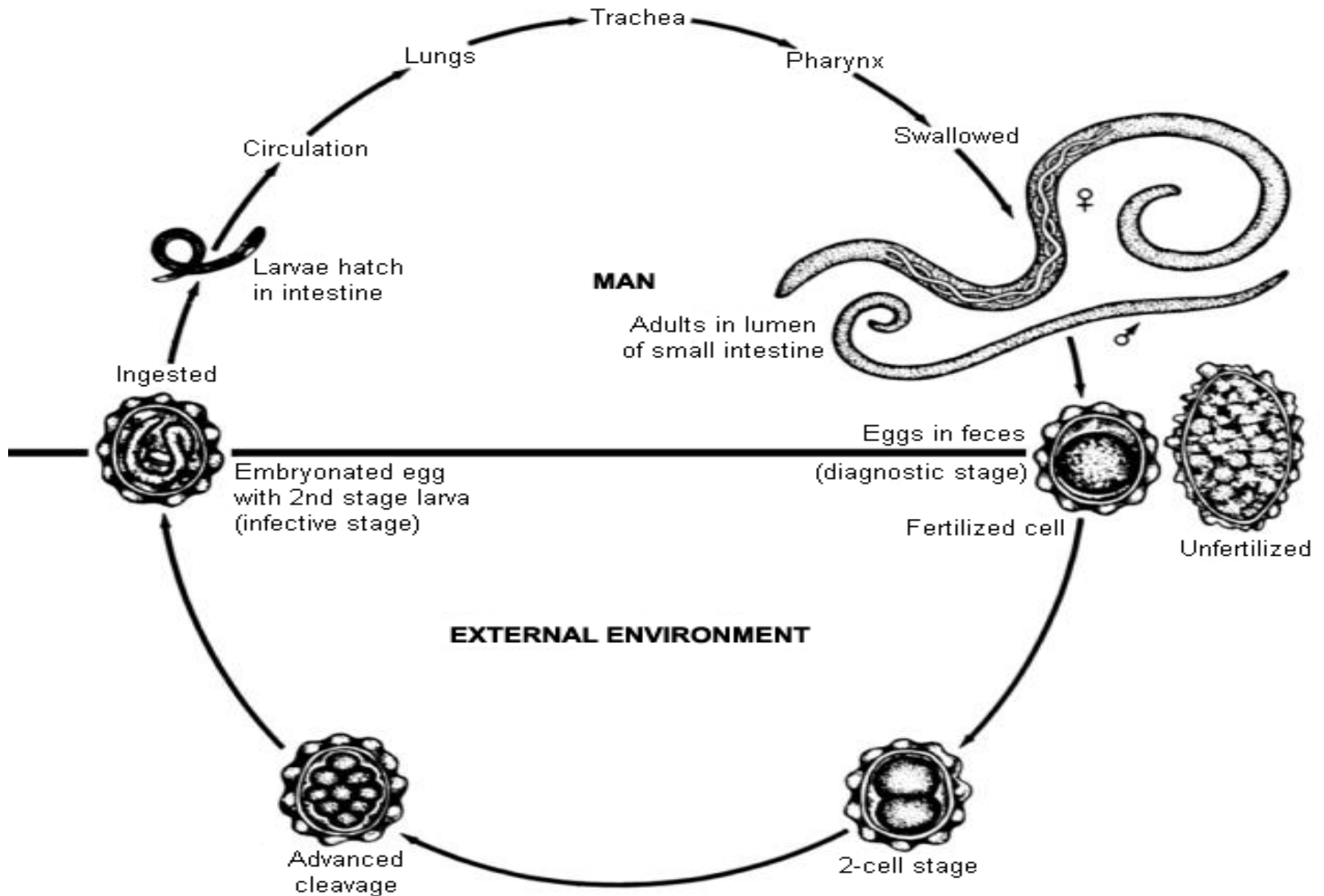
# *Ascaris lumbricoides* (roundworm)

The commonest intestinal helminthes can cause infection to human.

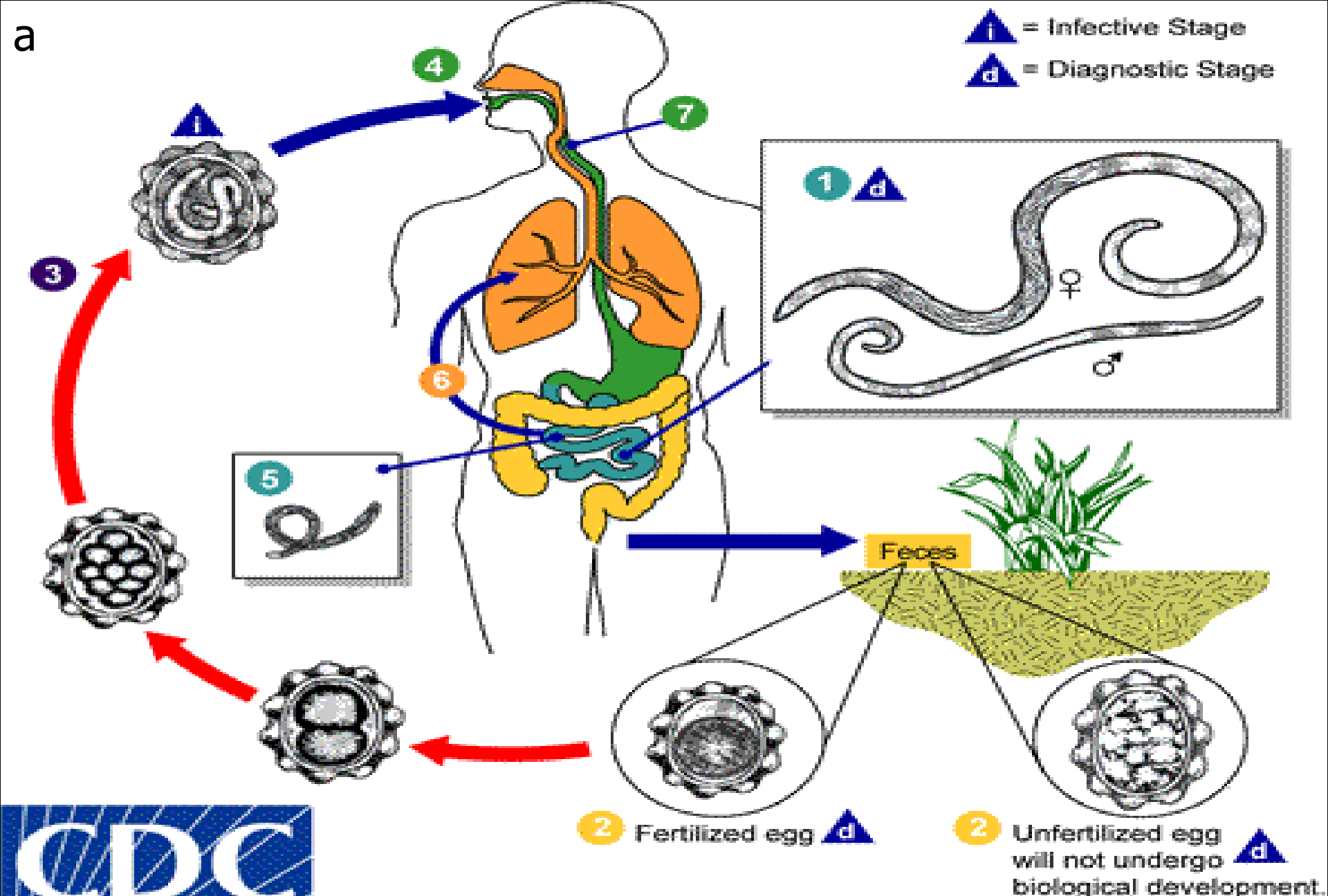
- Found in **jejunum** and upper part of **ileum**.
- Female ( **20-40 cm** ) which is longer than male ( **10-15 cm** ) .
- Feed on semi digested food.



# Ascaris lumbricoides life cycle







**i** = Infective Stage  
**d** = Diagnostic Stage



# Life cycle of Ascais Lumbricoides

It infect the human when man ingest an **fertilized egg** contaminated with food or water, then this fertilized egg become a **Larva** that penetrate the wall of the **duodenum** and enter the blood stream to the heart , liver and enter the pulmonary circulation and stay in the **alveoli** ,where it grow and molts for three weeks then **Larva** passes from respiratory system to be **coughed up** ,swallowed ,returned to the small intestine where it mature to adults male &female ,fertilization take place producing eggs which pass in stool.

# Pathogenicity

## ■ 1-Migrating LARVA :

- *Ascaris pneumonia , some times LARVA reach aberrant sites like brain ,heart or spinal cord can cause unusual disturbance.*

## ■ 2-Adult WORM:

- *The worm consumes proteins and vitamins from host's diet and leads to malnutrition.*
- *Can cause intussusception, intestinal ulcers and in massive infection can cause intestinal obstruction.*

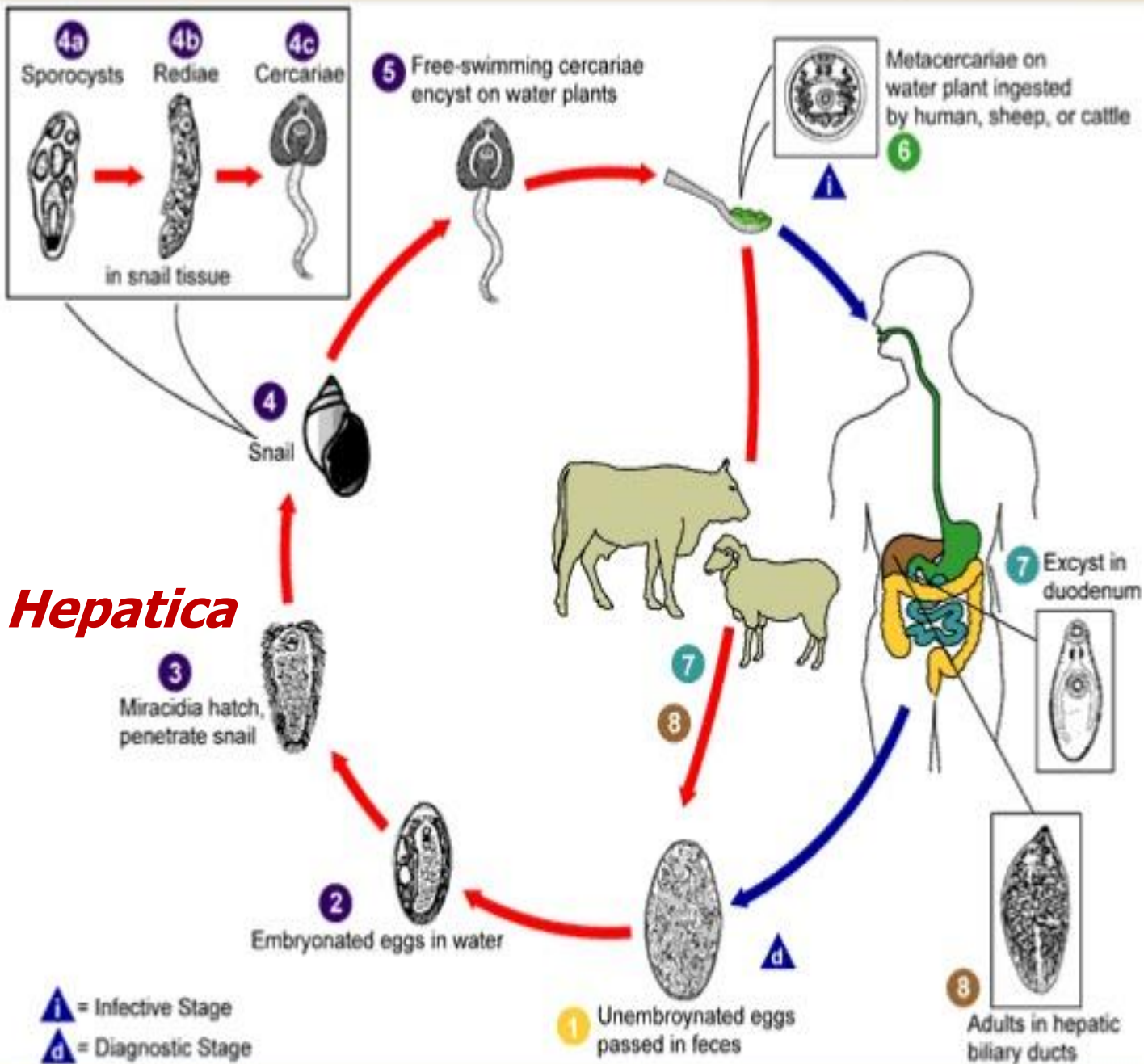


# Classification of Parasites

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**The Trematodes flat worm , un-segmented  
,leaf like fasciola hepatica**



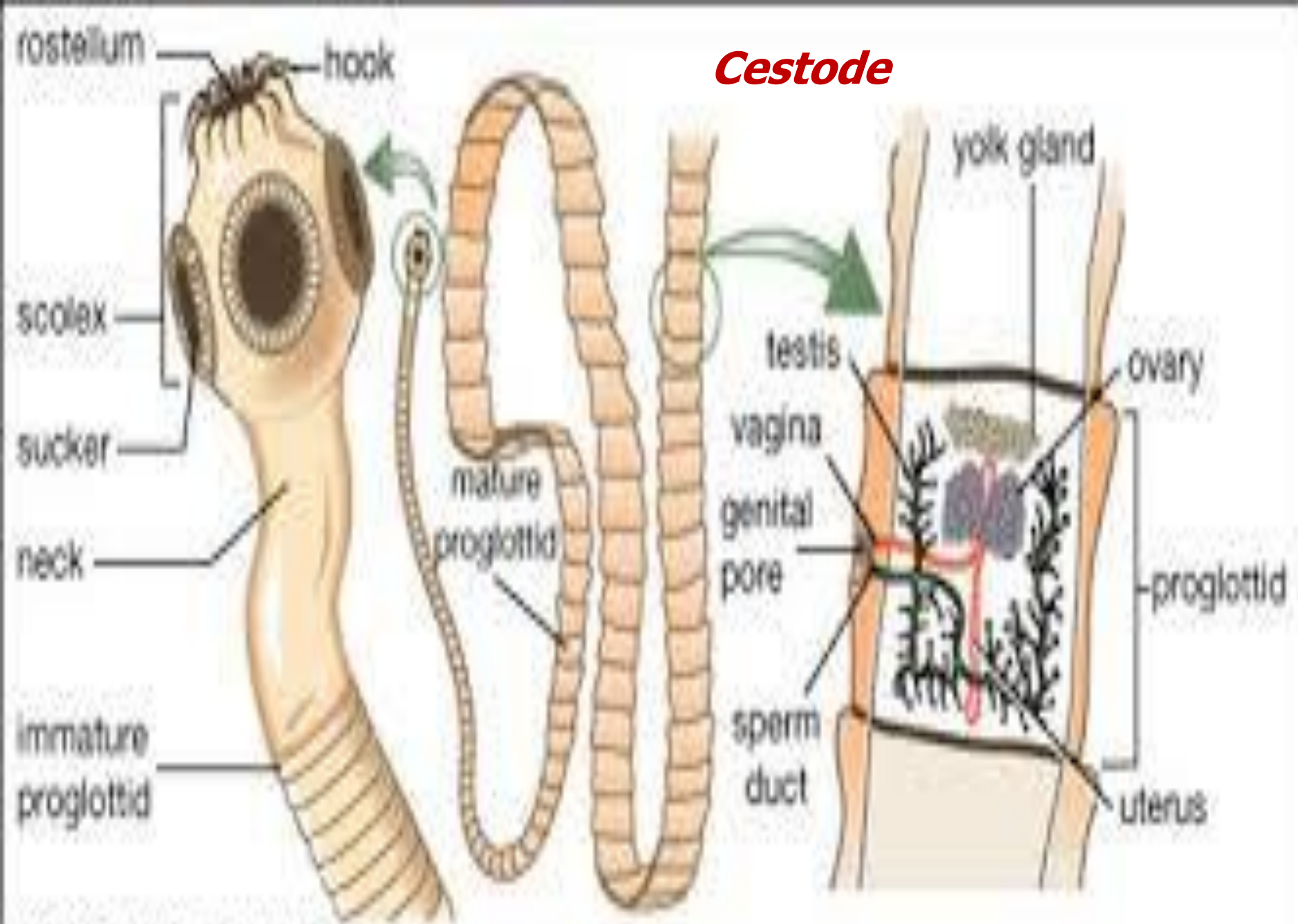
*Fasciola Hepatica*

▲ = Infective Stage  
 ▲ = Diagnostic Stage

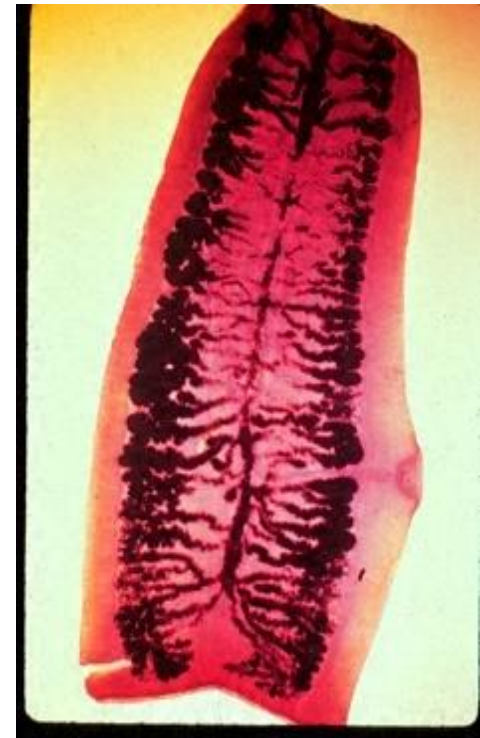
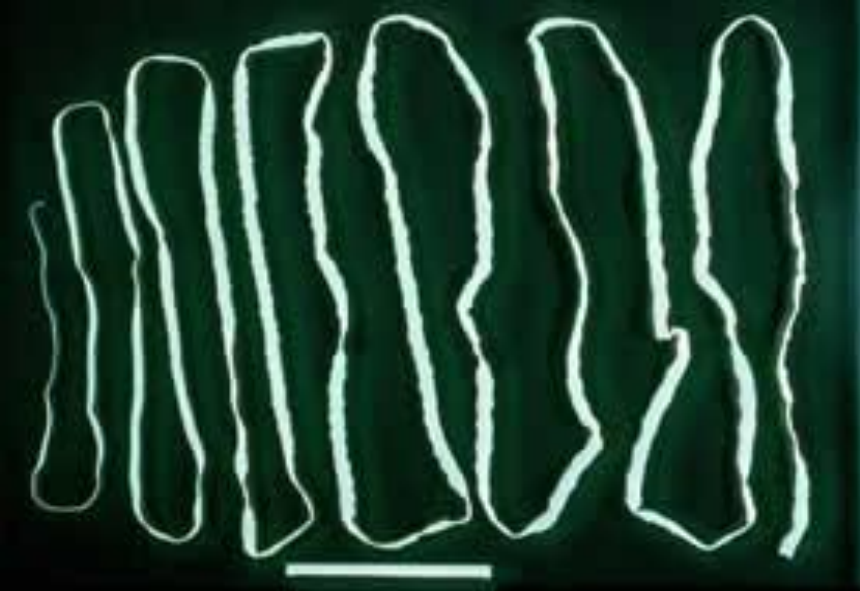
1 Unembryonated eggs passed in feces

8 Adults in hepatic biliary ducts

# *Cestode*







***Taenia saginata* Example of a Cestode ,Tapelike worm segmented.**



# MEDICAL IMPORTANCE OF ARTHROPODS

- 1) As aetiologic agents (causes) of diseases.
  - Tissue damage **Scabies**
  - Induction of hypersensitivity reactions.
  - Injection of poisons **Scorpions.**
  - Entomophobia (acarophobia)
- 2) As vectors of diseases:
  - I: Mechanical transmission - simple carriage of pathogens. **flies**
  - II: Biological transmission:
    - cyclical **filarial parasite**
    - propagative **e,g;plaque bacillie in rat fleas**
    - cyclopropagative **e,g;Malaria in mosquito**
  - III: Transovarian transmission **as rickettsis carried within ticks.**

# Medical importance of Arthropods as vector of diseases

- I: **Mechanical transmission** - simple carriage of pathogens e,g flies.
- II: **Biological transmission:**
  - 1- **cyclical** :cyclical change only but does not multiply in the body of the vector e,g :filarial parasite.
  - 2-**propagative**:when the disease agent undergo no cyclical change but multiplies in the vector e,g;plague bacillie in rat fleas.
  - 3- **Cyclo-propagative** :the disease agent undergoes cyclical change and multiply in the body of arthropods e,g;Malaria in mosquito.
- III: **Transovarian transmission:**
  - \_transmitted as vector from arthropodes parents to offspring as ricketsis carried within ticks.

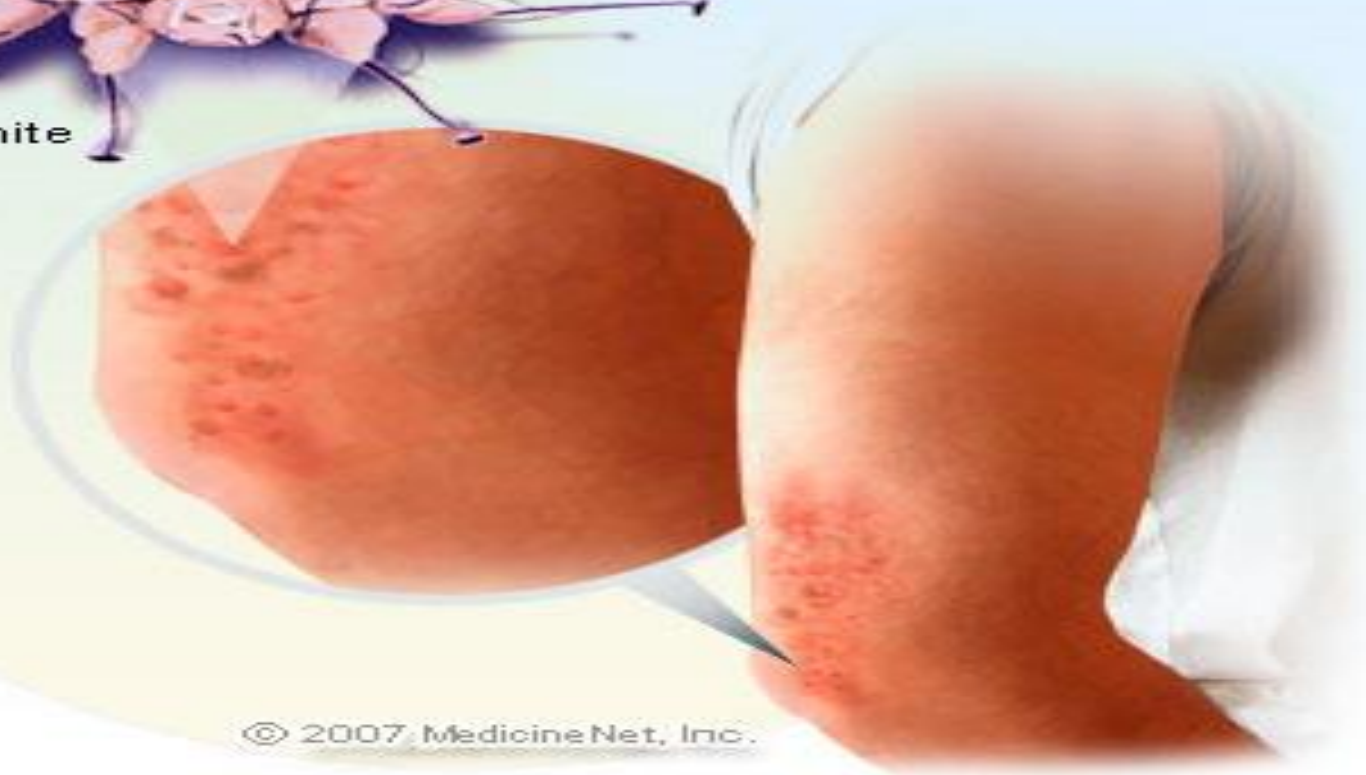
**Scabies** as tissue damage example of Arthropod **As aetiologic agents (causes) of diseases.**



# Scabies



Scabies mite



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**Scabies**

**الجرب**

# ARTHROPODS OF MEDICAL IMPORTANCE

Class <i>Insecta</i> الحشرات	Class <i>Arachnida</i> العناكب	Class القشريات <i>Crustacea</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Muscid flies: housefly, Tsetse fly</li> <li>● Myiasis-producing flies .</li> <li>● Mosquitoes البعوض: <i>Anopheles, Aedes Culex</i></li> <li>● Sandfly ذباب الرمل (<i>Phlebotomus</i>)</li> <li>● Black fly (<i>Simulium</i>)</li> <li>● Fleas البراغيث</li> <li>● Lice (<i>Pediculus, Phthirus</i>) القمل</li> <li>● Bugs: <i>Cimex, Triatoma</i> البق</li> <li>● Bees النحل</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Scorpions العقارب</li> <li>● Spiders العناكب</li> <li>● Ticks: القراد hard, soft</li> <li>● Mites السوس -<i>Sarcoptes scabiei</i>, -dust mites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Water flea (<i>Cyclops</i>)</li> </ul>



# Important arthropod vectors for human diseases

<b>House fly (<i>Musca domestica</i>)</b>	Mechanical transmission of many viruses, bacteria and parasites.
<b>Mosquitoes</b> البعوض	Anopheles : malaria filariasis Culex: filariasis, viruses Aedes: yellow fever, dengue fever, Rift Valley Fever
<b>Lice</b> القمل	Body louse: vector for: Relapsing fever, typhus and trench fever.
<b>Fleas</b> البراغيث	Rat flea is vector for plague due to <i>Yersinia pestis</i> .
<b>Ticks</b> القراد	Soft ticks , some are vectors for : <i>Borrelia duttoni</i> Hard ticks Include vectors for Babesiosis (protozoa), Q fever, and Rocky mountain spotted fever :
<b><u>Tse tse fly</u> (<i>Glossina</i>)</b> ذبابة التسي	<b>Vector for African Trypanosomiasis</b> (African sleeping sickness)
<b>Black fly (<i>Simulium</i>)</b> الذبابة السوداء	Vector for <i>Onchocerca</i> (river blindness)
<b>Sand fly (<i>Phlebotomus</i>)</b> ذبابة الرمل	Vectors for <b>leishmania</b> and sandfly fever virus.
<b>Cyclops</b>	Vector for <i>Dracunculus medinensis</i>

# LICE

Louse(singular) , Lice (plural)

## ***Pediculus humanus***



Head louse

Louse eggs (nits)



# Mosquitoes :



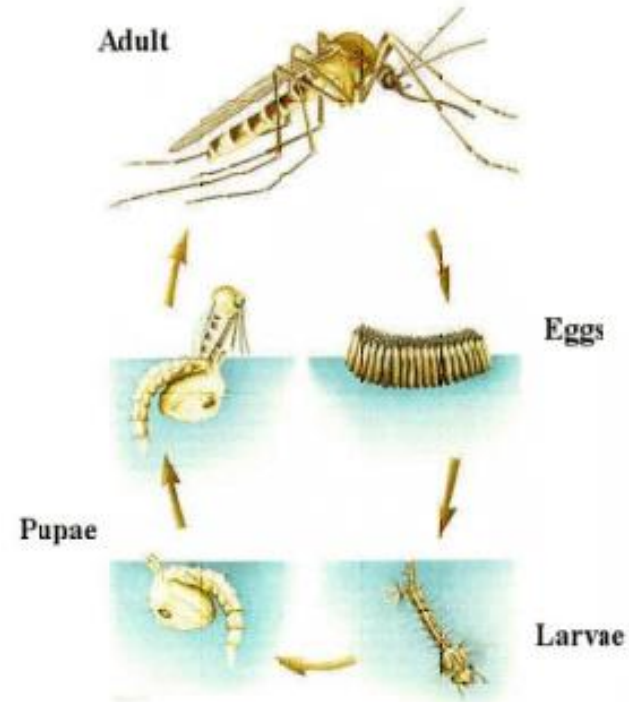
Cosmopolitan , more than 3000 species.

Larval and pupal stages always aquatic

Mouth parts in female adapted to piercing and sucking blood.

Genus and species distinguished by morphology of adult and developmental stages.

**cyclo-propagative**



***Malaria***

# sand fly transmit *Leishmania*

