

9 – 15 August 2021

Malaria research

The recently discovered microbe that blocks transmission of malaria from mosquitoes to people can be transmitted sexually between mosquitoes, *icipe* researchers have found. The microbe, *Microsporidia MB*, which is also passed from mother mosquitoes to their offspring, could be the key to controlling the disease.

- https://www.news-medical.net/news/20210810/Microbe-transmitted-between-mosquitoes-couldbe-key-to-controlling-malaria.aspx
- https://news.knowledia.com/ZA/en/articles/microbe-discovery-could-halt-malaria-transmission-4587459c05bc46f714e56ffb6c8742064eb8cb02
- https://www.healtheuropa.eu/malaria-transmission-potentially-eradicated-with-discovery-of-newmicrobe/110389/
- https://kosofepost.com/2021/08/13/microbe-discovery-could-halt-malaria-transmission/

Push-pull technology

icipe and partners from Keele University and University of Leeds have developed a new mobile phone app to help farmers defeat crop pests. The app is is designed to protect the plants against devastating pests such as Fall armyworm and *Striga* weed.

- https://www.leeds.ac.uk/news-environment/news/article/4892/an-app-to-help-african-farmersdefeat-crop-pests
- https://www.keele.ac.uk/lifesci/news/2021/august/mobile-app/africa-crop-pests.php

Top cited papers

The following papers authored by *icipe* scientists are among the top 10% most cited *PLOS One* papers published in 2018:

- Diiro G., Seymour G., Kassie M., Muricho G. and Muriithi B.W. (2018). Women's empowerment in agriculture and agricultural productivity: Evidence from rural maize farmer households in western Kenya. PLoS ONE 13(5), e0197995. <u>https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0197995</u>
- Chia Y.S., *Tanga C.M., Khamis F.M., Mohamed S.A., Salifu D., Sevgan* S., Fiaboe K.K.M., *Niassy S.,* Van Loon J.A., Dicke M. and *Ekesi S.* (2018). Threshold temperatures and thermal requirements of black soldier fly *Hermetia illucens*: Implications for mass production. *PLoS ONE* 13(11), e0206097. <u>https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0206097</u>

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