

## **Abstract:**

In the Msambweni area of the Kwale District in Kenya, an area endemic for *Schistosoma haematobium*, potential intermediate-host snails were systematically surveyed in water bodies associated with human contact that were previously surveyed in the 1980s. *Bulinus (africanus) nasutus*, which accounted for 67% of the snails collected, was the only snail shedding *S. haematobium* cercariae. *Lanistes purpureus* was the second most common snail (25%); lower numbers of *Bulinus forskalii* and *Melanoides tuberculata* were also recovered. Infection with non-*S. haematobium* trematodes was found among all snail species. Rainfall was significantly associated with the temporal distribution of all snail species: high numbers of *Bulinus nasutus* developed after extensive rainfall, followed, in turn, by increased *S. haematobium* shedding. Spatial distribution of snails was significantly clustered over a range of up to 1 km, with peak clustering observed at a distance of 400 meters. Water lily (*Nymphaea* spp.) and several aquatic grass species appeared necessary for local colonization by *B. nasutus* or *L. purpureus*.