A warmer world means more beetles and more dermatitis

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Dear Sir,

Global warming is a hypothesis that the average temperature of the earth's atmosphere is increasing because of the release of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide that is the most important anthropogenic gas. Global warming controversy includes the causes and the consequences of a possible global warming. Although there is no scientific evidence to claim a man-made global warming, a global climate change may be a serious threat for the future of the world.

Recent reports revealed that climate changes due to a possible global warming influence ecological dynamics of the insect species and cause faster population growth rates. Increased mean summer temperatures, and prolonged warm and humid periods, promote malaria transmissions and periods of possible successful transmission of tick-borne infections.[1,2]

Paederus dermatitis, also known as blister beetle dermatitis, is a peculiar type of acute irritant contact dermatitis caused by an insect belonging to the genus *Paederus*. The genus *Paederus* has nearly 630 species worldwide.[3] The disease is characterized by the appearance of vesicles, bullae, and pustules on erythematous base, and it is often misdiagnosed with herpes zoster or herpes simplex infection because of the burning and stinging sensation [Figure 1]. Interestingly, the beetle does not bite or sting, and the contact between skin and the release of coelomic fluid of the accidently crushed beetle causes the dermatitis. *Paederus* beetles live in regions with a warm, tropical climate.[4] *Paederus* dermatitis has been reported recently with outbreaks from various countries including Iran,[5] Iraq,[6] Turkey, Malaysia,[7] Kenya, Nigeria, Australia,[8] Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, and Ecuador in the literature.

Figure 1: *Paederus* dermatitis involving the neck

An increase in global temperature may cause a progressive increment in the incidence of paederus dermatitis. In conclusion, we may face more beetles and dermatitis in the near future if we do not take appropriate measures to prevent a possible global warming.

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