

ous leishmaniasis in central Kenya and the Rift Valley

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Abstract:

Active case detection and investigations of sandfly resting places in suspected transmission sites of cutaneous leishmaniasis in central Kenya and the Rift Valley resulted in the identification of several foci of the disease in Samburu, Isiolo, Laikipia, Nakuru and Nyandarua districts. The foci occurred in areas ranging from semi-arid lowlands at 400 m altitude to highland plateaux at 2500 m, including the floor of the Rift Valley, and were mostly inhabited by recently settled communities, nomads and migrant charcoal burners. Four species of *Phlebotomus*, 3 of the subgenus *Larroussius* (*P. pedifer*, *P. aculeatus* and *P. guggisbergi*) and one *Paraphlebotomus* (*P. saevus*) were collected from caves, rock crevices and tree hollows found in river valleys and in lava flows