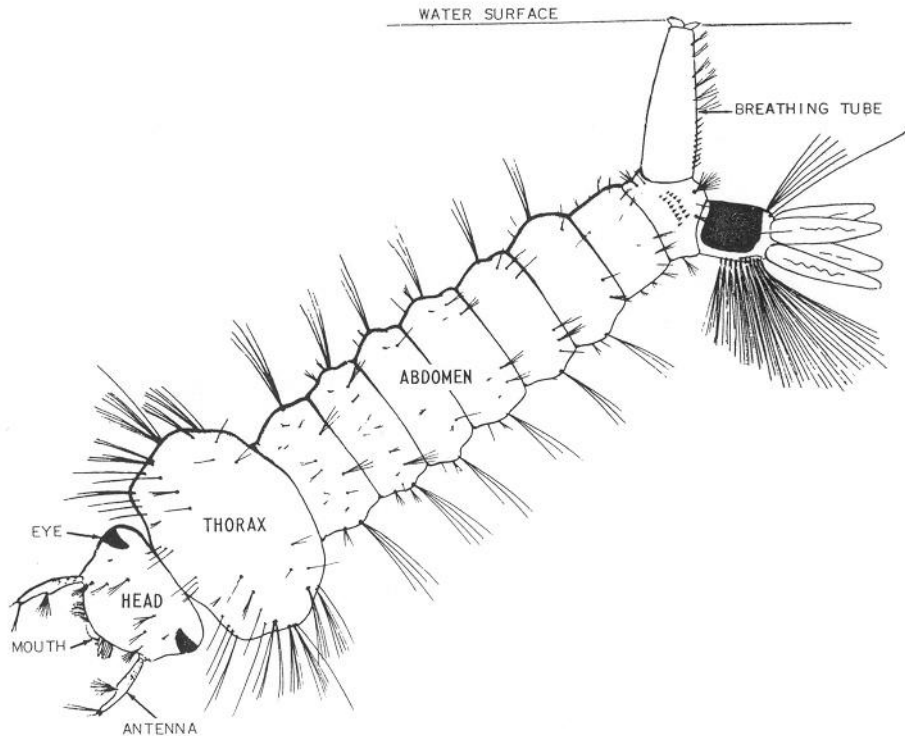


MOSQUITO LARVA



1. Mosquito larvae, commonly called “wrigglers”, must live in water.
2. Larvae must come to the surface at frequent intervals to obtain oxygen through a breathing tube. The larva eats algae and small organisms, which live in the water.
3. During growth, the larva molts (sheds its skin) four times. The stages between molts are called instars. At the 4th instar, the larva reaches a length of almost $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.
4. When the 4th instar larva molts it becomes a pupa.

Note: Anopheles are unlike *Culex* and *Aedes* larvae since they do not have a breathing tube and must lie parallel to the water surface in order to obtain a supply of oxygen through the breathing openings.