

TOXORHYNCHITES RUTILUS SEPTENTRIONALIS: A NEW ADULT AND LARVAL RECORD FROM RHODE ISLAND

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ABSTRACT. Twenty-three *Toxorhynchites rutilus septentrionalis* were collected from a tire in South Kingstown, RI, on September 15, 1993. This represents the first recorded capture of the species in Rhode Island.

The first recorded capture of *Toxorhynchites rutilus septentrionalis* (Dyar and Knab) in Rhode Island was from a discarded tire in South Kingstown, RI, on September 15, 1993. The specimens were found during a routine search for mosquito larvae at a dump site containing several scrap tires. One adult female *Tx. r. septentrionalis*, which had recently emerged and was resting on the water, and 22 4th-instar larvae were removed from one tire. At the time of capture, only 2 tires contained water. One tire contained exclusively *Culex* sp. larvae. The tire containing the *Tx. r. septentrionalis* was devoid of other mosquito larvae.

The larvae were brought to the laboratory, placed in individual rearing jars at room temperature, and fed *Culex* sp. larvae collected from the field. After 23 days of natural 12:12 photoperiod with no larval consumption and no pupation, the larvae were reared at a 16:8 L:D photoperiod in artificial light. This apparently broke diapause as prey consumption occurred. Except for the immatures retained as voucher specimens, all larvae pupated and emerged as adults (8 females, 11 males) within a 25-day period.

Although not the most northern occurrence (Parker 1977), this collection represents the most northern reported incursion of the species into New England (Main et al. 1976). Prior to this

report Connecticut was the only New England state in which the species was reported (Darsie and Ward 1981).

Identification was made using Carpenter and LaCasse (1955). This record now brings to 40 the total number of mosquito species recorded from Rhode Island (LeBrun et al. 1983, Cookman et al. 1985, Cookman and LeBrun 1986).

One 4th-instar larva, one pupa, and 2 adult voucher specimens are deposited in the University of Rhode Island, Kingston campus reference collection.

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