

is inserted initially, and is then covered with carbon tetrachloride. After several hours, the chemical is poured off and the tube is left uncorked until most of the liquid has evaporated. The sponge will retain the fumes for a considerable time.

A cyanide tube may be easily made by placing a one-inch layer of potassium cyanide at the bottom of a Lusteroid tube, and covering it with a tight-fitting synthetic sponge plug. No other layer is

necessary, but it is to be emphasized that the plug must fit very tightly over the poison.

In ordinary use, a killing tube is not exposed to a flame, but it should be remembered that Lusteroid is a type of celluloid and will burn if brought into direct contact with a flame. There are several types of plastic test tubes and vials available which may be used in place of Lusteroid, if desired.

THE MOSQUITOES OF NEW MEXICO¹

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The mosquito fauna of New Mexico first received attention due to malaria which was present in the irrigated valleys of the State. This disease was a major problem in the 1920's, but incidence has declined during the past decade in line with the national trend (1, 2, and 3). With the expansion of irrigation agriculture in recent years, mosquito-borne encephalitis has become more prominent as a problem. Most of the mosquito species recorded from New Mexico have been disease-vectors or pests of man and animals.

This note summarizes the data known from early and recent works on the mosquitoes of the State.² The most recent collection data are from the northeast quadrant of the State and were taken mainly from a series of nine New Jersey type mosquito light traps run during 1951

and/or 1952. Traps were operated in the range of 44 to 73 trap nights per season for a total of 559 trap nights for the period of study. Trap stations were confined to reservoirs or irrigation districts. The mosquito seasons studied extended from approximately June 1 through the month of October.

Over half of the mosquitoes taken were *Culex tarsalis*, noted for encephalitis vocation. This species may be collected during the entire mosquito season. Other very common species found were *Aedes dorsalis*, *Aedes nigromaculis* and *Culiseta inornata*. The latter species has the unusual habit of breeding in all months of the mosquito season in this area.

SPECIES RECORDED

Anopheles freeborni, *A. crucians*, *A. punctipennis*, *A. pseudopunctipennis*, and *A. franciscanus*.

Aedes aegypti, *A. atropalpus*, *A. campestris* (?),³ *A. canadensis*, *A. dorsalis*, *A. increpitus*, *A. mitchellae*, *A. nigromaculis*, *A. sollicitans*, *A. trivittatus*, and *A. vexans*.

¹ From the Communicable Disease Center, Public Health Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Atlanta, Georgia.

² This survey of the mosquito fauna of New Mexico is a function of the Mosquito Control and Allied Problems Work Group of the Arkansas-White-Red River Basins Inter-Agency Committee which is planning water resources developments in the general region.

³ Barber's question (1).

Culex apicalis, *C. quinquefasciatus*, *C. restuans*, *C. salinarius*, and *C. tarsalis*.

Culiseta incidens and *C. inornata*.

Orthopodomyia signifera.

Psorophora confinnis, *P. cyanescens*, *P. discolor*, and *P. signipennis*.

Uranotaenia sapphirina and *U. syntheta*.

Records for *Aedes canadensis*, *A. in crepitus*, *A. nigromaculis*, *A. mitchellae*, *A. trivittatus*, *Culex restuans*, *Orthopodomyia signifera*, *Psorophora confinnis*, *P. cyanescens*, (4) *P. discolor*, and *Uranotaenia sapphirina* are new additions to the State list.

SUMMARY

This preliminary report summarizes the native mosquito fauna of New Mexico for the first time and lists *Culex*

tarsalis, *Culiseta inornata*, *Aedes dorsalis*, and *Aedes nigromaculis* as the most common forms studied during two recent seasons of trapping in northeast New Mexico.

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CORRECTED DISTRIBUTION RECORDS OF *CULEX* *STIGMATOSOMA* IN TEXAS

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Information relative to mosquito species distribution in West Texas obtained by the operation of approximately 50 New Jersey light traps in 1945 and 1946 has been reported by Eads, Menzies and Ogden (1951). This work erred in that *Culex thriambus* Dyar, 1921, was considered to be a synonym of *Culex stigmatosoma* Dyar, 1907. The latter species was listed as having been taken from Brewster, Coleman, Edwards, Jim Wells, Kerr, Kimble, Mason, McCulloch, Pecos, Reeves, Runnels, Shackelford, Sutton, Tom Green, Uvalde, and Wheeler Counties in Texas.

Recent review of the slides of male terminalia on which these records were based has revealed that, with two exceptions, the species involved was actually *Culex thriambus*. These two mosquitoes

are somewhat similar with respect to gross adult morphology, although the male terminalia are readily distinguishable, and the larvae are radically different.

This paper summarized the records of these two species of mosquitoes in the collection of the Texas State Department of Health. Some data are included which were not available at the time of the publication by Eads, et al. (1951). All speciation has followed a study of male terminalia.

Culex stigmatosoma. 30 males, September 26, 1944, El Paso County, Collectors D. R. Lindsay and L. J. Ogden; 4 males, September 26, 1944, Brewster County, Collectors D. R. Lindsay and L. J. Ogden; 1 male, October 2, 1944, Terry County, Collectors D. R. Lindsay and L. J. Ogden.