

ing in all kinds of artificial containers. Although this disease was last reported in 1890, its vector is included in the key because of the ever-present possibility of the re-introduction of the disease and the

large numbers of *A. aegypti* present especially in the port cities. Dengue fever likewise transmitted by *A. aegypti*, is present but of an extremely low endemicity.

VIII. WEST INDIES

DAVID R. COOK²

Of the 20 species of *Anopheles* occurring in the West Indies, only four are important as vectors of malaria. *Anopheles albimanus*, by far the most dangerous, occurs on most of the islands except those lying south of the island of Marie Galante. Larvae occur in a large variety of fresh or brackish water collections in sunlight, and often in tremendous numbers where thick mats of aquatic vegetation are present on the surface. The females of this species attack animals as well as man, but are usually domestic and account for most of the anophelines found in houses. *Anopheles aquasalis*, less important than *A. albimanus* in malaria transmission, occurs principally in the Lesser Antilles and Trinidad. Larvae are found in brackish water along the coast, in swamps, ditches and occasionally in fresh water accumulations. Adults are strong fliers and have appeared in huge swarms far from their breeding places. They definitely prefer the blood of man and enter houses to bite. *Anopheles crucians* is confined principally to Cuba, Jamaica and Puerto Rico. Larvae are found in either fresh or brackish, shaded or sunlit collections of water such as streams, seepages and ponds. Although females enter houses to feed, they will readily bite man out of

doors at night. *Anopheles bellator*, the most common anopheline of the cocoa-raising areas of Trinidad, is unusual in that its larvae live in epiphytic bromeliads. Females of this species will enter houses to gain blood meals, but unlike most other anthropophilous anophelines, return immediately to their resting places in the forest, thus making collections of engorged adults very difficult. Adults of this species, like *A. crucians*, will bite out of doors at night.

In addition to the *Anopheles* discussed above, 16 other species also occur, or are suspected of occurring, in the West Indies. There are: *albitarsis*, *apicimaculatus*, *atropos*, *argyritarsis*, *eiseni*, *grahamii*, *homunculus*, *maculipes*, *mediopunctatus*, *neomaculipalpus*, *nimbus*, *oswaldoi*, *pseudopunctipennis*, *punctimacula*, *rangei*, and *vestitipennis*.

Jungle yellow fever is not known to occur in any of the islands of the West Indies. Urban yellow fever, on the other hand, has raged throughout the chain transmitted by *Aedes aegypti*. This mosquito breeds in all kinds of artificial containers close to human habitations, and is the only one of approximately 117 known anopheline mosquitoes occurring in the area that is known to be a vector of disease. *A. aegypti* is also a vector of dengue fever, the exact distribution of which is not known with certainty in this area.

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MOSQUITOES OF MEDICAL IMPORTANCE — WEST INDIES

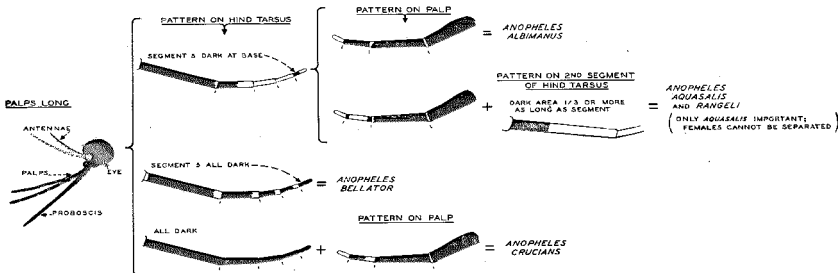
[AREA INCLUDED: BAHAMAS, GREATER ANTILLES, LESSER ANTILLES AND TRINIDAD]

FEMALES

[MALES HAVE BUSHY ANTENNAE (WHICH) AND DO NOT BITE]

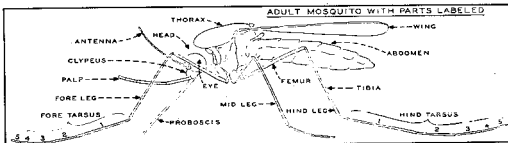
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JULY 1953

IMPORTANT
A SPECIMEN MUST HAVE
ALL CHARACTERS LISTED
FOR THAT SPECIES



PALPS SHORT

PATTERN ON THORAX



FULL-GROWN LARVAE

