

were not observed in fourth instar *Aedes aegypti*.

The relation of the vesicles to other tissues is obscure. It may be that they are a specialized kind of fat body. No clues were obtained concerning the function of thoracic vesicles.

It may be that Giles (1906) saw thoracic vesicles, for in his description of "the hepatic masses" he wrote, "The other two pairs are placed at a distance from the intestine, in the corners of the pro- and metathorax respectively." However, his illustration and description are so vague that it is difficult to be certain that he dis-

tinguished them from fat body, gastric caeca, or salivary glands. It is possible that vesicles have been overlooked for so long because they were mistaken for portions of the salivary glands.

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THE RESURRECTION OF *Aedes melanimon* DYAR¹

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H. G. Dyar in 1924 (p. 126) described *Aedes melanimon* from 15 female and 2 male specimens taken at Bakersfield, California. He noted the similarity of this species to *dorsalis* as follows: "... I considered this as a variety of *aorsalis* until a male was obtained. The very distinct hypopygium shows that a distinct species is represented." Freeborn (1926) examined a series of males of this form supplied by C. K. Badger who had also supplied Dyar with his material. He (Freeborn) figured the male terminalia under the name of *Aedes dorsalis melanimon*. He appears to have been of the opinion that the terminalia of *dorsalis* could be produced by distortion of the terminalia of *melanimon* or *vice versa* (p. 372) but he also retained *melanimon* as a "race" of *dorsalis*. Later authors (Matheson, 1929, 1944; Freeborn and Bohart, 1951) have considered *melanimon* to be a subjective synonym of *dorsalis*.

In the process of examining large numbers of male terminalia of Minnesota *Aedes* the writer inadvertently dissected a Californian specimen of "*Aedes dorsalis*" which had terminalia quite different from those of Minnesota *dorsalis*. Subsequently two additional males were found that were identical with the first one. Two of these males are from Tulare, California (October 31, 1942) and the third from Porterville, California (October 26, 1942); all were collected by John T. Medler and pertain to the species *melanimon*.

The terminalia of *melanimon* and *dorsalis* are illustrated in the accompanying figures and are most easily separated by the nature of the claspette filament and the apical and basal lobes of the basistyle. In *melanimon* the apical lobe is quite large; this is particularly pronounced when the terminalia are examined while in potash or in water immediately after clearing in potash. When the specimens are dehydrated for mounting the apical lobe tends to bend back on itself so that it appears smaller; however, the difference

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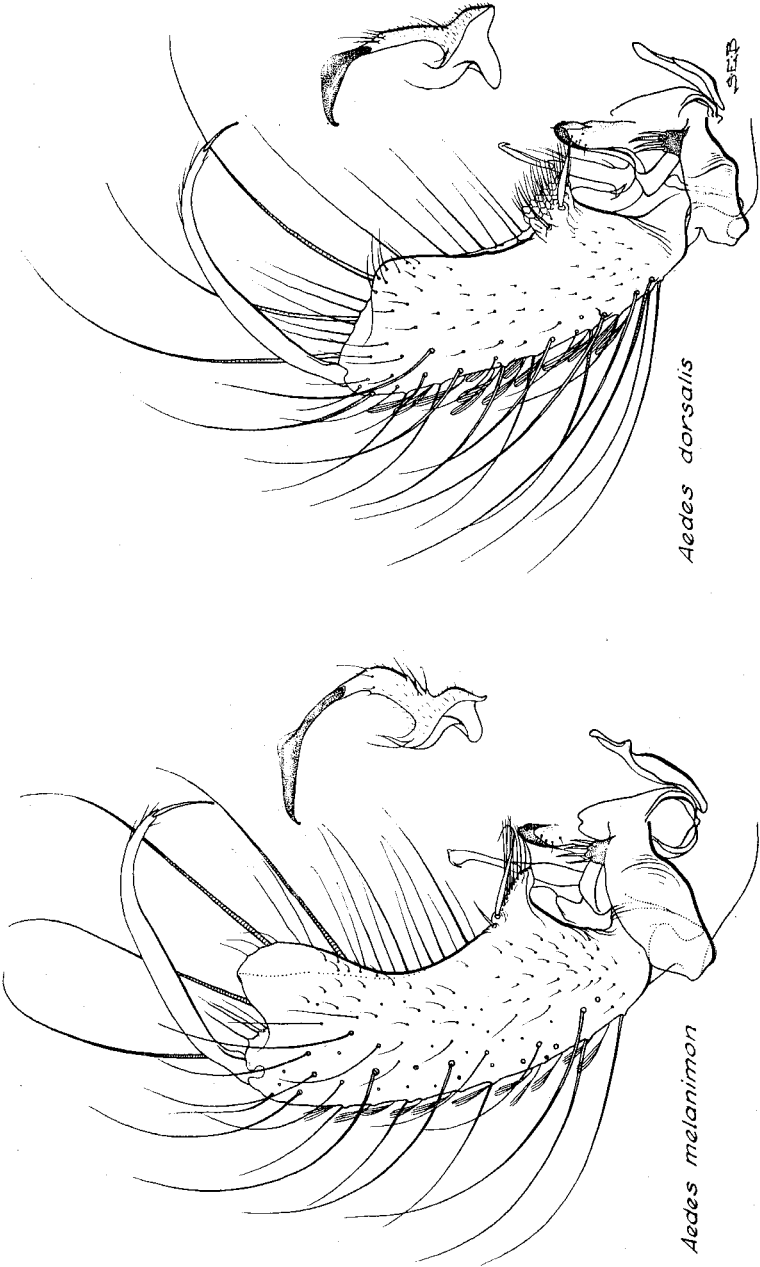


FIG. 1. Male terminalia of *Aedes dorsalis* and *A. melanimon*.

in size between the two species is still pronounced as can be clearly seen in the illustrations which were drawn from terminalia mounted in balsam.

The claspette filament of *melanimon* has a long shank which is very short in *dorsalis*. The posterior surface of the basal lobe of *melanimon* slopes gently to the basistyle and is not sharply curved as in *dorsalis*. The author has not been able to convert specimens of one species into those of the other by distortion although it appears likely that if the terminalia were sufficiently distorted, these differences would not be apparent and the two species could be confused.

Dyar stated that in *melanimon* "the wing-scales are all dark or at least unicolorous, there being no contrasting dark and light veins as in *dorsalis*." In the specimens at hand the wing scales are not unicolorous, there being a large number of pale scales at the bases of the wing veins although the outer portions of all veins are completely dark-scaled.

Aedes melanimon is now known from Bakersfield, Porterville, and Tulare. Yamaguti and LaCasse (1951, p. 70) figure the terminalia of *melanimon* under the name of *dorsalis* although the same authors (LaCasse and Yamaguti, 1950) had previously illustrated the terminalia of *dorsalis* (p. 134), presumably from Japanese specimens. The specimen of *melanimon* is said (p. 262) to be from

Modesto, California. The illustration of the terminalia of *dorsalis* in Carpenter *et al.* (1946, p. 180) also pertains to *Aedes melanimon*.

Summary. The attention of culicidologists is directed to *Aedes melanimon*, a neglected species of mosquito occurring in California.

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