

EDITORIAL

A significant meeting held in Atlanta, Ga., March 19-21, 1956, was a conference at the Communicable Disease Center of vector control specialists. As is stated in the foreword to the summary of this conference, the objective "was to provide those in attendance an opportunity to discuss informally what the problems are today in vector control and related fields in the states, what measures are being used currently to alleviate them, and how vector control services can be made more effective." Among those who attended this conference were many prominent members of the American Mosquito Control Association.

Like most conferences of professional workers, the panel discussions brought out many accomplishments in the fields under discussion. What is more significant in some respects was the listing in specific manner of some of the more important vector control problems on which there is not enough information, and on which additional research is urgently needed. In the belief that all AMCA members can profit by having in mind some of these points on which additional research is needed, they are cited verbatim from the Proceedings as follows:

1. The degree of thermal decomposition of organic phosphorus compounds as compared to the chlorinated hydrocarbon in-

secticides in thermal aerosol generators used in vector control operations.

2. The relative effectiveness of insecticidal dusts and fogs in vector control.

3. The biology and control of mosquitoes produced in the increasing numbers of sewage oxidation ponds and sewage lagoons throughout the nation.

4. Equipment for the effective airplane application of granular insecticides.

5. Equipment and techniques for high-rate aerobic composting of organic wastes.

6. The biology and control of mosquitoes in irrigated areas.

7. The biology and control of salt-marsh mosquitoes in coastal and inland areas where these species constitute a serious economic and nuisance problem.

8. A greatly expanded program of research on the problem of insect resistance to insecticides.

9. The overall operation of garbage and refuse storage, collection, and disposal.

10. A substantial expansion in research on the human toxicology of pesticides.

11. Pollinosis control techniques, materials, and equipment.

12. Basic investigations on the ecology, biology, and behavior of insects of public health importance as a guide to more effective use of existing control measures and to the development of new control approaches.

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