

wood. On bamboo, Bayer 29493 gave cumulative kills for longer periods than any of the other three toxicants. Previous laboratory data for tests with Sevin on plywood panels showed it to give essentially complete kills for 24 and 32 weeks at ages of 100 and 200 mg./sq. ft., respectively.

The poor results obtained on clay with insecticides that persisted for 10 to 14 weeks on other surfaces follow the same trend exhibited in previous laboratory field tests with malathion, DDT, and dieldrin. However, formulations of malathion that showed little residual action after several days in the laboratory were found to be adequate for 2 to 3 months when tested under field conditions (Schoof *et al.*, 1961). Bayer 29493 also produced similar intervals of effectiveness. From the lack of correlation between field and laboratory tests it is apparent that factors that influence the effectiveness of treatments on wood differ markedly under laboratory versus field evaluation.

Based on the over-all comparison of surfaces versus toxicant, residues on cement and clay were the least effective, while those on thatch, followed by plywood and whitewashed plywood, were the most effective.

Field experience has shown that the type of surface may exert a profound effect on the persistence of a residual application. The current data likewise show that any one surface may show a negative or positive effect upon a residue depending on the toxicant involved. Because of this, the possibility exists that insecticidal residues may prove satisfactory under circumstances where a single toxicant may not. On this premise, insecticidal formulations could be prescribed in accordance with the surfaces found in a project area.

SUMMARY. At Savannah, Georgia, suspension residues of Hercules 5727 and 7522H, Union Carbide 10854, Sevin, and Bayer 39007 were evaluated against *Anopheles quadrimaculatus* on surfaces of clay, thatch, bamboo, cement (plaster), plywood, whitewashed plywood, galvanized metal, and brick. All surfaces were maintained under a shed out-of-doors. Based on 1-hour exposure of adult females at biweekly intervals, Hercules 5727 and 7522H at 25 and 50 mg./sq. ft. and Union Carbide 10854 at 50 and 100 mg./sq. ft. offered little promise as residual agents; Hercules 7522H was the least effective; it failed on nine surfaces at 4 weeks. Both Sevin and Bayer 39007 showed promising results in giving 90 percent kills for 12 to 14 weeks on thatch, whitewashed plywood, plywood, and metal when applied at 200 mg./sq. ft. Bayer 39007 was superior to Sevin on clay but inferior to it on cement. Residues of all compounds were least effective on cement followed by clay. Deposits on thatch gave the maximum periods of effectiveness.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT. These studies were accomplished as part of a contractual agreement between the Communicable Disease Center and the Agency for International Development.

References

- LABRECQUE, G. C., GAHAN, J. B., and WILSON, H. G. 1960. Residual effectiveness of some new insecticides against adults of *Anopheles quadrimaculatus* Say. Mosq. News 20:238-241.
- MATHIS, WILLIS, and SCHOOF, H. F. 1958. Field effectiveness of malathion deposits against dieldrin-resistant *Anopheles quadrimaculatus*. Indian J. Malariol. 12:433-437.
- SCHOOF, H. F., MATHIS, WILLIS, and AUSTIN, J. R. 1961. Field tests on the residual effectiveness of deposits of malathion and Bayer 29493 against resistant *Anopheles albimanus* in El Salvador. Bull. World Hlth. Org. 24:475-487.

STUDIES ON *CULISETA INORNATA* AS A POSSIBLE VECTOR OF ENCEPHALITIS VIRUSES IN CALIFORNIA¹

R. K. WASHINO,² R. L. NELSON,² W. C. REEVES,³ R. P. SCRIVANI³ AND C. H. TEMPEL

INTRODUCTION. In the western United States, *Culex tarsalis* is the primary vector of both western equine (WEE) and St. Louis (SLE) encephalitis viruses (Reeves, 1953). It has been postulated that this mosquito may also serve to carry these viruses through the winter and re-establish infection in vertebrate hosts on which they feed in the following spring. Data bearing on this postulate were given by Bellamy *et al.* (1958, 1962) and Reeves *et al.* (1958). In Kern County, California, where both viruses are endemic, isolations of SLE virus from *C. tarsalis* were essentially limited to specimens collected during summer months, but WEE virus was recovered from specimens collected in all seasons except for the period from mid-November to mid-January when blood-feeding by *C. tarsalis* was greatly reduced. Other mosquitoes feed on blood during this interval and might play an important role in the overwinter maintenance of these viruses. In Kern County, *Culiseta inornata* is the principal mosquito feeding during this winter period.

Culiseta inornata was found naturally infected with WEE virus in the Yakima Valley, Washington (Hammon *et al.*, 1945), and more recently was found infected with Cache Valley virus in Utah (Holden and Hess, 1959). In addition, *C. inornata* can transmit WEE, SLE, and Japanese B viruses under laboratory conditions (Hammon and Reeves, 1943a; Hammon and Reeves, 1943b; Reeves and Hammon, 1946) and has been experimen-

tally infected with California encephalitis virus (Reeves and Hammon, 1952).

The present studies were to evaluate *C. inornata* as a possible vector of encephalitis viruses in Kern County, California, and covered a period from March 1959 to June 1962.

MATERIALS AND METHODS. Field studies were concentrated in three study areas 20 to 30 miles west of Bakersfield, California, where WEE and SLE viruses regularly occur at endemic levels. These areas ranged in size from 9 to 18 square miles. Cotton, rice, and alfalfa were the principal irrigated crops in the general area, which also included desert tracts and areas "wasteland" that were flooded in the winter to attract migratory waterfowl and remained flooded until February or March. Additional observations were made in an irrigated, wooded recreational area about five miles east of Bakersfield, and occasionally in other areas of Kern County.

From March 1959 through December 1960, a wide variety of aquatic situations were repeatedly inspected for mosquito larvae and pupae. Many of the larval survey observations were part of an intensive *C. tarsalis* surveillance and control program conducted during the summer of both years and were influenced by mosquito control activities.

Three mosquito light traps were operated in one of the study areas to obtain adult *C. inornata* for virus tests and to provide data on their seasonal occurrence. Traps were run from one to seven nights per week from September 1960 through October 1961. Eight additional traps baited with cloth collecting bags in place of cyanide jars were operated periodically to collect supplementary females for virus tests. All traps were operated for at least one-half hour before sunset until after sunrise.

¹ This investigation was supported, in part, by a research grant, E-3028, from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, U. S. Public Health Service.

² Bureau of Vector Control, California State Department of Public Health, Berkeley, California.

³ School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley, California.

Adult collections were made with aspirators from a variety of shelters, including versts, under bridges, farmyard sheds, animal shelters, privies, and standard red-x collecting units. Collections were most intensive during the period October 30 through June 1961, although similar data from previous and later years were utilized. All shelter collections were utilized for virus isolation tests, host preference studies, and to provide biological data on seasonal population activities and ranges.

Adult mosquitoes were brought to the laboratory, anesthetized with chloroform, identified, and in the case of females, classified to the following categories: blood-engorged, gravid, empty, and "unclassified." Specimens with any visible blood in the abdomen were considered blood-engorged; those without blood but with obvious developing eggs were considered gravid; and those with neither blood nor eggs were called empty. Specimens with abdomens broken off and those which could not be classified with certainty were placed in an "unclassified" category. Males were pooled into groups of 50 specimens or less, flame-sealed in soft-glass tubes and stored at temperatures below -40°C. until tested for virus. Dead and young specimens were not used for virus tests. Abdomens of blood-engorged specimens were removed, individually placed in small gelatin capsules, and stored in amber stoppered glass tubes in the freezer until precipitin tested. The remaining parts of dissected females (head and thorax) were included in virus test pools. All frozen specimens were packed with dry ice in insulated cartons and shipped to the virus laboratory at Berkeley, California for subsequent testing.

The procedures for virus testing and isolation have been described fully (Scribnier and Reeves, 1962). Each pool was tested in 5 adult mice, and 2 hamster kidney and 2 embryonated egg tissue culture tubes.

Precipitin tests of the blood-filled abdomens were modified from the usual procedures and are described fully (Tempelis

and Lofy, 1962, Tempelis and Reeves, 1962a and b). In summary, each abdomen was triturated in 1.0 ml of saline and centrifuged. The supernatant fluid was precipitin screen tested against two antisera, one reacting to the serum proteins of a wide range of mammalian species and the other to a wide range of avian species. The screening antisera were reactive at antigen dilutions about 1:10,000 in the micro-capillary test. Samples that reacted with either antiserum were tested further against more species specific antisera for final identification.

RESULTS. Larvae of *C. inornata* were found in 218 of 14,665 inspections. They were collected in all months except August and September, and all stages of larvae and pupae were present from November through May. Larvae were found in a wide variety of aquatic situations, including duck club ponds, ditches, canals, irrigation and tail water impoundments, seepages, and rainpools. Larvae were most abundant in duck club ponds from December through February and apparently were not adversely affected by thin sheets of ice that occasionally formed on the ponds. Larvae of *C. inornata* were found more frequently with *C. tarsalis* than with larvae of any other species.

Data on light trap collections and temperature averages are presented in Figure 1. Weekly average-per-trap-night collections are plotted in three-week moving averages. The maximum number of *C. inornata* taken in one night in any trap was 25 males and 109 females (December 20/21); whereas, none were captured during the very warm months of July and August.

Monthly patterns of blood-feeding and ovarian development for 1,877 females collected from shelters over a ten-year period are summarized in Figure 2.

No virus was isolated from 4,301 females collected in light traps and shelters during the most intensive sampling period from November 1960 through June 1961 (Table 1) or from an additional 134 specimens collected in December 1959, and 465 in the period July 1961 through June

C. inornata is essentially a fall, winter, and spring mosquito. A similar seasonal occurrence was reported in the southern United States (King *et al.*, 1960; McGregor and Eads, 1943; Rozeboom, 1942).

The decrease in the number of adults collected in light traps in January coincides with the year's coldest temperatures (Figure 1). Although the apparent bimodal inter population distribution may reflect an actual decrease in the population, it more probably reflects a failure of *C. inornata* to respond to traps under unfavorable conditions. Data on shelter popula-

tions would further support this interpretation (Table 3).

Studies in Texas (Wilkins and Breland, 1949; Buxton and Breland, 1952) suggested that at least a part of the *C. inornata* population in that area might pass the summer in the egg stage. In spite of intensive surveillance, neither eggs nor larvae were found in August or September of 1960 in Kern County. Moreover, some of the habitats in which larvae of *C. inornata* were first found in October contained water but no larvae and had been repeatedly treated with insecticide several

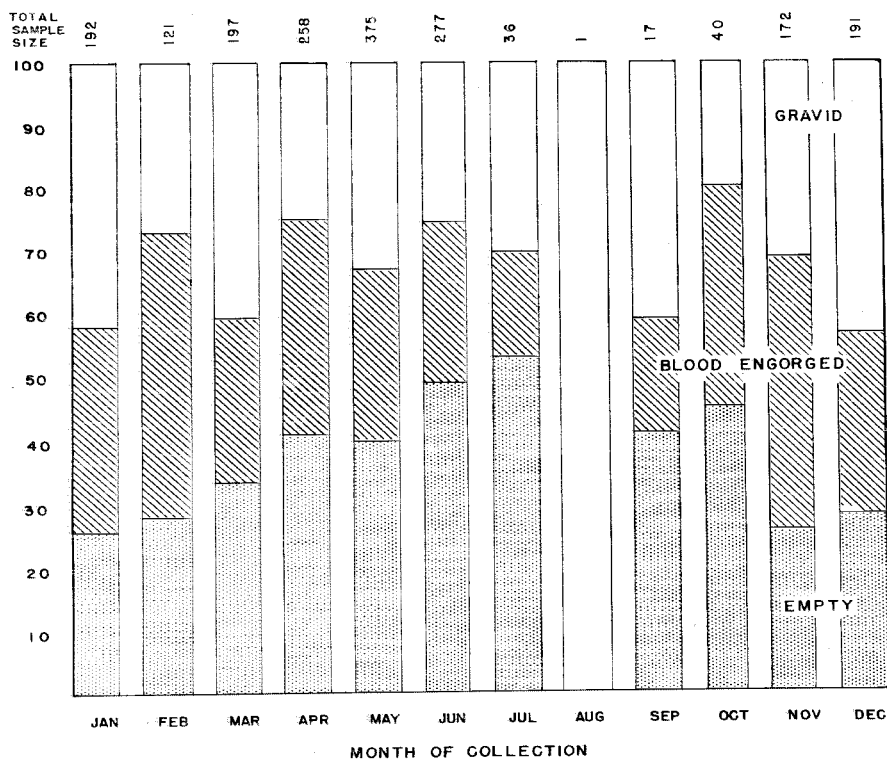


FIG. 2.—Seasonal pattern of feeding and egg production of female *Culiseta inornata*, Kern County, California, 1952–1961 inclusive

TABLE 2.—Precipitin test identification of blood samples from engorged *Culiseta inornata* collected in Kern County, 1960-1962

Host animal	Number positive	Percent positive
Cow *	96	76.2
Horse	19	15.0
Jackrabbit	4	3.2
Dog	1	0.8
Mammal **	3	2.4
Chicken	2	1.6
Negative	1	0.8
Total	126	100.0

* This antiserum cross-reacted broadly with sheep but very few sheep occurred in the area.

** Samples reacted with high titer screening antiserum but not with 10 more specific mammalian antisera.

weeks before the larvae were found. If the egg provided a means for passing the summer in Kern County, males should have been more common in fall shelter collections as they were later in the winter. The ratio of males to females in shelter collections in September, October, and November was considerably lower than in later periods when adult emergence from pupae was known to be occurring on a large scale, beginning in December (Table 3). Adult females were collected in every month, although in greatly reduced numbers during the summer. Consequently, it seems likely that the survival of this mosquito through summer periods in Kern County depends upon adult females persisting in small numbers. Owens (1942) reported that female *C. inornata* in a laboratory colony had an average life span of 97 days and a maximum of 145 days. If long life is characteristic of females under field conditions, their chances for survival through summer periods of minimum reproduction would be enhanced.

The number of female *C. inornata* tested for virus in the present studies was sufficient to yield one or more isolations of virus if infection was as common as in *C. tarsalis*. However, the failure to isolate viruses must be interpreted with the knowledge that there was very little

TABLE 3.—Numbers of male and female *Culiseta inornata* in shelter collections, by month, 1952 to 1961, Kern County, California

Month	Number of males	Number females
January	21	192
February	50	121
March	103	197
April	158	258
May	178	375
June	75	277
July	12	36
August	0	1
September	1	17
October	2	40
November	7	172
December	24	191
Total	631	1,877

virus activity in other vectors and vertebrate hosts in Kern County in the summers of 1959 and 1960 but a relative high level of WEE virus activity in the summer of 1961.

Prior to the present studies, *C. inornata* was intensively tested for virus in Washington (Hammon *et al.*, 1941, 1942, 1945), Colorado (Cockburn *et al.*, 1957) and Manitoba (Norris, 1946; J. McLintock personal communication). Negative studies in Oklahoma (Reeves *et al.*, 1947) an Minnesota (Burroughs and Burroughs 1954), and earlier studies in Kern County (Reeves *et al.*, 1958; Reeves and Hammon 1962) were somewhat limited in scope and inconclusive.

Blood-feeding by female *C. inornata* occurred through most of the year in Kern County (Table 1 and Figure 2) and precipitin tests indicated that 98 per cent of these feedings were on mammals (Table 2). Studies of the feeding habits of *C. inornata* in Washington (Reeves and Hammon, 1944), Utah (A. D. Hess, personal communication), and Alberta, Canada (J. A. Shemanchuck, personal communication) all showed that it fed mainly on large domestic mammals. The host preference of this mosquito may be a major obstacle to its serving as a vector of WEE and SLE viruses, since wild and domestic birds seem to provide a mo-

tisfactory source of infective blood-meals (Reeves, 1953).

Current reinvestigations of *C. inornata* a vector of encephalitis viruses in Kern county were based on the observation at this mosquito was abundant and was king blood meals during winter periods when *C. tarsalis* was relatively inactive and rely infected with viruses (Reeves *et al.*, 1958). In addition, *C. inornata* had been used naturally infected with WEE virus in Washington and had transmitted WEE and SLE viruses in the laboratory. The findings that *C. inornata* was not infected with WEE virus, in spite of extensive tests, and that it preferred to feed on mammalian hosts, do not support the hypothesis that *C. inornata* is an important vector of encephalitis viruses in Kern County.

SUMMARY. An intensive study of *Culiseta inornata* was made in Kern County, California. Immature stages were found in a wide range of aquatic habitats but particularly in fields flooded for duck hunting in the fall and winter. Light trap and shelter collection records indicated a peak population of adult males and females in the fall, winter, and spring months and the lowest level in the summer. Blood-feeding and ovarian development occurred throughout the year, but were particularly notable in midwinter when other mosquito species were inactive. Virus was not isolated in tests of 900 *C. inornata* females, of which over 50 percent were blood-engorged or gravid. Precipitin test identification of blood samples from 126 engorged females indicated a marked preference for large domestic mammalian hosts.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT. Dr. R. E. Bellamy assisted in the collection and identification of specimens and direction of field investigations. Miss M. Lofy assisted in precipitin test identification of blood-meals.

References

BELLAMY, R. E., and REEVES, W. C. 1962. The winter biology of *Culex tarsalis* in Kern county, California. *Ann. Entomol. Soc. Am.* In press.

- REEVES, W. C., and SCRIVANI, R. P. 1958. Relationships of mosquito vectors to winter survival of encephalitis viruses. II. Under experimental conditions. *Am. J. Hyg.* 67:90-100.
- BURROUGHS, A. L., and BURROUGHS, R. N. 1954. A study of the ecology of western equine encephalomyelitis virus in the upper Mississippi River Valley. *Am. J. Hyg.* 60:27-36.
- BUNTON, J. A., and BRELAND, O. P. 1952. Some species of mosquitoes reared from dry materials. *Mosq. News* 12:209-214.
- COCKBURN, T. A., SOOTER, C. A., and LANGMUIR, A. D. 1957. Ecology of western equine and St. Louis encephalitis viruses: a summary of field investigations in Weld County, Colorado, 1949 to 1953. *Am. J. Hyg.* 65:130-146.
- HAMMON, W. McD., and REEVES, W. C. 1943a. Laboratory transmission of western equine encephalomyelitis virus by mosquitoes of the genera *Culex* and *Culiseta*. *J. Exp. Med.* 78:425-434.
- , and REEVES, W. C. 1943b. Laboratory transmission of St. Louis encephalitis virus by three genera of mosquitoes. *J. Exp. Med.* 78:241-253.
- , REEVES, W. C., BENNER, S. R., and BROOKMAN, B. 1945. Human encephalitis in the Yakima Valley, Washington, 1942, with forty-nine isolations (western equine and St. Louis types) from mosquitoes. *J. Am. Med. Assoc.* 128:1133-1139.
- , REEVES, W. C., BROOKMAN, B., and IZUMI, E. M. 1941. Isolation of the viruses of western equine and St. Louis encephalitis from *Culex tarsalis* mosquitoes. *Science* 94:328-330.
- , REEVES, W. C., BROOKMAN, B., and IZUMI, E. M. 1942. Mosquitoes and encephalitis in the Yakima Valley, Washington: I. Arthropods tested and recovery of western equine and St. Louis viruses from *Culex tarsalis* Coquillett. *J. Infect. Dis.* 70:263-266.
- HOLDEN, P., and HESS, A. D. 1959. Cache Valley virus, a previously undescribed mosquito-borne agent. *Science* 130:1187-1188.
- KING, W. V., BRADLEY, G. H., SMITH, C. N., and MCDUFFIE, W. C. 1966. A handbook of the mosquitoes of the southeastern United States. U.S.D.A. Agric. Handbook No. 173, 188 pp.
- MCGREGOR, T., and FADS, R. B. 1943. Mosquitoes of Texas. *J. Econ. Entomol.* 36:938-940.
- NORRIS, M. 1946. Recovery of a strain of western equine encephalitis virus from *Culex restuans* (Theobald) (Diptera: Culicidae). *Canad. J. Research.* E 24:63-70.
- OWEN, W. B. 1942. The biology of *Theobaldia inornata* Williston, in captive colony. *J. Econ. Entomol.* 35:903-907.
- REEVES, W. C. 1953. The knowns and unknowns in the natural history of encephalitis. *Proc. & Papers 21st Ann. Conf. California Mosq. Control Assoc.*, pp. 53-55.
- , BELLAMY, R. E., and SCRIVANI, R. P. 1958. Relationships of mosquito vectors to winter survival of encephalitis viruses. I. Under natural conditions. *Am. J. Hyg.* 67:78-89.
- , and HAMMON, W. McD. 1944. Feed-

ing habits of the proven and possible mosquito vectors of western equine and St. Louis encephalitis in the Yakima Valley, Washington. *Am. J. Trop. Med.* 24:131-134.

———, and HAMMON, W. McD. 1946. Laboratory transmission of Japanese B encephalitis virus by seven species (three genera) of North American mosquitoes. *J. Exp. Med.* 83:185-194.

———, and HAMMON, W. McD. 1952. California encephalitis virus, a newly described agent. III. Mosquito infection and transmission. *J. Immunol.* 69:511-514.

———, and HAMMON, W. McD. 1962. Epidemiology of the arthropod-borne virus encephalides in Kern County, California, 1943-1952. III. The role of arthropod vectors. Univ. of California Press 4:1-257.

———, MACK, W. N., and HAMMON, W. McD. 1947. Epidemiological studies on western equine encephalomyelitis and St. Louis encephalitis in Oklahoma, 1944. *J. Infect. Dis.* 81:191-196.

ROZEBOOM, L. E. 1942. The mosquitoes of

Oklahoma. Oklahoma Agr. Exp. Sta., Tech. Bt T-16, 56 pp.

SCRIVANI, R. P., and REEVES, W. C. 1961. Comparison of hamster kidney and chick embryo tissue cultures with mice for primary isolation of western equine and St. Louis encephalitis virus. *Am. J. Trop. Med. & Hyg.* 11:539-545.

TEMPERIS, C. H., and LOEY, M. F. 1962. A modified precipitin method for the identification of mosquito blood meals. In press.

———, and REEVES, W. C. 1962a. The production of a specific antiserum to bird serum. *Am. J. Trop. Med. & Hyg.* 11:294-297.

———, and REEVES, W. C. 1962b. The production of immunological unresponsiveness in the chicken to produce a species specific antiserum to bird serum. *Am. J. Trop. Med. & Hyg.* 11:293-302.

WILKINS, O. P., and BRELAND, O. P. 1942. Recovery of the mosquito *Culiseta inornata* (W. Liston) from dry material. *Proc. Entomol. Soc. Wash.* 5:127-28.

BIOLOGY OF *CULISETA MELANURA* (COQUILLET) IN SOUTHEAST GEORGIA¹

R. E. SIVERLY² AND H. F. SCHOOF

INTRODUCTION. Interest in the colonization of *Culiseta melanura* has been stimulated by the implication of this mosquito in the transmission of eastern encephalitis. Isolation of EE virus from wild-captured *C. melanura* was first reported by Chamberlain *et al.*, (1951). Since that study, numerous investigations have been made in connection with encephalitis outbreaks in eastern United States (Chamberlain *et al.*, 1958; Wallis, 1959; Bickley and Byrne, 1960; Hayes, 1960).

That *C. melanura* is important in the transmission of EE is based largely upon circumstantial (rather than experimental)

evidence. While there is no unanimous agreement in the conclusions drawn by various workers, the weight of the evidence suggests that when *C. melanura* is involved, the involvement is most like a low-level maintenance cycle which serves to account for endemicity of infective within an avian population. This mosquito probably is not involved in the type epidemic cycle which accounts for the feed-back of encephalitis virus from avian to human populations.

Experimental evidence is needed to assess better the role of *C. melanura* in the transmission of encephalitis. Such data can be obtained most readily by laboratory experimentation with living material which can best be provided through colonization of the suspected vector. Accordingly, studies directed toward colonization of *C. melanura* were initiated at the Technical Development Laboratories, Sava-

¹From the Technical Development Laboratories, Technology Branch, Communicable Disease Center, Public Health Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Savannah, Georgia.

²Present address: Ball State Teachers College, Muncie, Indiana.