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OCURRENCE OF *Culiseta melanura* (COUILLETT)
IN ILLINOIS¹

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Culiseta melanura (Coq.) has been reported from Kentucky, Minnesota, Wisconsin, (Quinby *et al.*, 1944, Sandve, 1946, Dickinson, 1944), and from Indiana (Siverly, 1958). Ross and

Horsfall (1965) list *C. melanura* as occurring in neighboring states but unreported from Illinois at the time of their publication.

C. melanura larvae were collected at four differ-



FIG. 1.—*Culiseta melanura* production site in Massac County, Illinois.

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ent sites in Johnson and Massac counties in southern Illinois during July and August of 1965. Many larvae, occasional egg rafts, and a few pupae were taken from water-filled recesses at ground level in water tupelo, bald cypress, and



FIG. 2.—*Culiseta melanura* production site in Johnson County, Illinois.

oak trees. In some instances, immature stages were taken from trapped water in bases of living trees; in other cases collections were made from hollow stumps (Figures 1, 2). In all instances, larvae utilized a type habitat described by Siverly and Schoof (1962), characteristically a dark cavity lined with roots and soil. Larvae observed to be associated with *C. melanura* included *Culex*

territans Walker, *Culex peccator* Dyar & Knab, and *Toxorhynchites rutilus septentrionalis* Dyar and Knab.

No adults were collected from light traps or resting boxes placed in proximity to larval collecting sites during the study interval, and natural resting shelters yielded only a few adult specimens. However, swamp areas in both Johnson and Massac counties are quite extensive. These areas probably harbor a much higher population of *C. melanura* than indicated by adult collections.

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