

OCCURRENCE OF *Toxorhynchites rutilus septentrionalis* (Dyar & Knab) IN INDIANA

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Larvae of *Toxorhynchites rutilus septentrionalis* (D & K) were collected from a treehole in central eastern Indiana September 10, 1967. Three third instar larvae were found in association with a sparse population of *Culex pipiens* in a small tree cavity. The cavity measured 8 inches at the opening, and on the date of collection held about 1 foot of water.

Two of the larvae were removed to the laboratory for rearing.

One larva required 15 days to complete the fourth instar. It consumed 66 medium-sized larvae (*pipiens* and *Culiseta inornata*). A male, exhibiting the dark-scaled fore tarsus typical of *septentrionalis*, emerged after 10 days.

The other larva needed only 10 days to complete the fourth instar, and it ate 57 larvae. A female emerged in 12 days.

Two characteristics of these larvae account for the fact that we missed them in a number of samplings made between late April and September 10. We noted that they like to remain away from light—seemingly much disturbed by direct light—and they spend long periods beneath the surface.

This study is part of a continuing investigation of the mosquitoes of the Whitewater River Valley (Indiana-Ohio) being performed by the author in cooperation with the Joseph Moore Museum, Earlham College. Specimens are located in the permanent collection of the museum in Richmond, Indiana.

This species has been reported from Illinois, Ohio, and Kentucky (Carpenter and LaCasse, 1955), and its occurrence in Indiana is not surprising. R. E. Siverly (1967) reported a total of 44 species of mosquitoes occurring in Indiana. To that list may be added *Orthopodomyia alba* Baker (Brooks, 1947) and the present reporting of *septentrionalis* to bring the number to 46.

References Cited

- BROOKS, I. C. 1947. Tree-hole mosquitoes in Tippecanoe County, Indiana. Proc. Ind. Acad. Sci. 56:154-156.
- CARPENTER, S. J. and LACASSE, W. J. 1955. Mosquitoes of North America, pp. 60-61.
- SIVERLY, R. E. 1967. Occurrence of *Aedes aberratus* (Felt and Young) and *Culiseta morsitans* (Theobald) in Indiana. Mosq. News 27(1):16.

MOBILE FIELD LABORATORY CABINET FOR USE IN ENCEPHALITIS SURVEILLANCE

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Since 1965, when the Harris County Mosquito Control District was formed, the district has been involved in performing encephalitis surveillance activities. In 1966, 2,757 birds were trapped or netted and blood specimens were studied in the laboratory.

The birds are bled and released at the site of capture. In order to facilitate the field processing, a Chevrolet carryall has been modified to serve as a field laboratory. (Figs. 1 and 2)



FIG. 1.—Photograph of mobile laboratory.

Storage areas have been provided for mist nets, mist net poles, ice chests, needles, syringes, bird bands, and field records. The unit contains a water storage tank, sink, and pump faucet to help maintain sanitation under field conditions. A folding chair is provided for the field technician's use near the formica covered work area.

The storage area for the mist nets and poles is provided with a padded lid to accommodate carrying of personnel.

The cost of this unit which was built under contract by a camper manufacturer amounted to \$290.00. The increased efficiency of the field crews in processing birds, specimens, and records should more than adequately justify this expenditure.