OPERATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC NOTES

THE OCCURRENCE OF *AEDES GROSSBECKI* IN TEXAS

RON D. KEITH

Harris County Mosquito Control District
101 Crawford, Houston, Texas 77002

Aedes grossbecki Dyer and Knab is distributed throughout the eastern United States and has been recorded as far west as Missouri, Arkansas, and Louisiana (Carpenter and LaCasse 1955). Although mosquito surveillance activities have been underway since 1964 in Harris County and earlier in other areas of the state there has been, until present, no reported record of *Ae. grossbecki* occurring in Texas. Distribution records, as reported by Hill, Smittle, and Philips (1958) and updated by Fournier and Snyder (1977), do not include *Ae. grossbecki.*

Several adult female *Ae. grossbecki* were collected by workers at Harris County Mosquito Control District during landing rate counts on April 20, 1966 in Crosby, Texas. Identification was confirmed by Robert L. Barrow and Robert E. Bartnett. In the 2-month period from March to April 1979 a total of 11 adult female *Ae. grossbecki* were collected in New Jersey light traps operated by the district. Four adult females were collected as early as March 15 from 3 locations in the county. The last occurrence of adult females was on April 16 when 2 were collected from Spring, Texas. Three specimens were sent to the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution (USNM) and confirmed as *Ae. grossbecki* by Dr. Richard Darsie. Additional specimens will be placed in the USNM. All collections were from the southern sections of the east Texas pine and hardwood forests. Harris County is level or slightly rolling prairie with timber stands occurring along the numerous bayous and creeks (Spaight 1882). These areas are composed of loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*, willow oak (*Quercus phillos*), post oak (*Quercus stellata*), and southern red oak (*Quercus falcata*). A variety of mammals is present in each location. Other species associated with *Ae. grossbecki* in light trap collections were *Ae. canadensis, Ae. vexans,* and *Culiseta inornata.* Efforts to collect larvae have so far been unsuccessful. Little information has been compiled, to the present, regarding the bionomics and importance of this mosquito as a disease vector. Continued efforts will be made in the future to determine the type and extent of larval habitat preferred by *Ae. grossbecki* in Harris county.

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A SYSTEM FOR THE INDUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF ANESTHESIA FOR *CULICOIDES*

R. E. MEYER AND E. T. SCHMIDTMANN[1]

Because of their small size, the sorting and identification of adult biting midges, *Culicoides* spp., requires an effective immobilization technique. Individuals that are chilled and placed on a cold table tend to become trapped and obscured by condensation. If gas anesthesia is used, vapors of chloroform or ether may be harmful to the insect (Busvine 1957) and the entomologist. Excessive levels of car-

[1] Student, N.Y.S. College of Veterinary Medicine, and Assistant Professor, Department of Entomology, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.