

THE OCCURRENCE OF *PSOROPHORA MEXICANA* (*BELLARDI*) IN THE UNITED STATES

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The first known record of the occurrence of *Psorophora mexicana* (Bell.) in the United States was obtained by the writer on June 6, 1944, near Brownsville, Texas, when a single female was taken while biting. On June 10, 1944, four additional biting females were collected at the same site. *P. cyanescens* and *Aedes thelcter* were very abundant at the time. Both of these collections were made about 4 o'clock in the afternoon in a small wooded area near an irrigation canal alongside of which were numerous temporary shaded pools occasioned by heavy rains which had occurred about one week previously. Although extensive search was made, no larvae could be found. The place of collection is located approximately two miles from the City of Brownsville, four miles from the Port of Brownsville and two miles from the International Airport. There is a possibility, therefore, that this species could have been introduced by

either ship or aircraft. If established in this locality it apparently is very rare.

The identity of the first specimen obtained was confirmed by Dr. Alan Stone of the Division of Insect Identification, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and has been deposited in the U. S. National Museum. The other specimens are in the collection of the author. *P. mexicana* is quite small in size when compared with other species of *Psorophora* of the subgenus *Janthinosoma* occurring in the United States and is characterized by having the last hind tarsal segment white. Little is known concerning the biology and distribution of this tropical mosquito species. Dyar (Mosquitoes of the Americas, 1928) describes the female and gives its distribution as "Mexico." Martini (Los Mosquitos de Mexico, 1935) names two localities in the State of Oaxaca, Mexico, in which it occurs. The male and larva are unknown.