

SOME MOSQUITO CONTROL OPERATIONS IN MONMOUTH COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

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Fig. 1. A 75 acre hydraulic fill on an open salt marsh near Port-au-peck. Spoil pumped from the Shrewsbury River which bounds the marsh on the north; depth of fill 3 to 5 feet.

The fill was made in 1936. In the spring of 1937 shrinkage of the mud upon drying, opened cracks 2 to 4 inches wide extending to a depth of 12 to 14 inches. Heavy rainfall filled these cracks with water, and produced one of the most prolific mosquito breeding areas ever encountered during all the years of mosquito control in Monmouth County. A beehive of mosquitoes in every crack.

If arranged in a straight line, the total length of the cracks would have been nearly 50 miles.

The problem was solved, and mosquito breeding checked by scarifying the 75 acres of mud cracks with a disc harrow both lengthwise and crosswise in the fall of 1937, finishing up with a scraper to complete the filling in of the cracks and leveling off the fill, which transformed an intense mosquito breeding area into a useful tract of land.



Fig. 2. Reconditioning a mosquito control ditch on a Monmouth County salt marsh.



Fig. 3. One of the mechanized power-spraying trucks operated by the Monmouth County Commission.