

The egg of *Anopheles (Cellia) culicifacies adenensis*
Christophers

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ABSTRACT. A description is given of the egg of *Anopheles (Cellia) culicifacies adenensis* Christophers from Oman.

The taxonomic status of *An. culicifacies adenensis* is still uncertain. Originally described as a variety of the Indian malaria vector *An. culicifacies* Giles, Christophers (1924), it was elevated to specific rank by De Meillon (1947). Gillies and De Meillon (1968) treated it as a subspecies, on the grounds that the greater pallor of the wings, compared with specimens from India, and the differences in the larval palmate hairs were too slight and variable to warrant specific status. The egg has not been described.

One of us recently collected eggs of this subspecies from Buraimi, Oman, a description of which material follows.

EGG (Fig. 1). Length, 0.46 - 0.53 mm. Floats widely separated, 18 - 21 float ridges. Frill occupying almost the full length of the egg and continuous between the floats. Deck narrow. Chorion unornamented.

On the basis of the material studied, the egg of *An. culicifacies adenensis* does not appear to differ from the description of *culicifacies* from the Indian subcontinent, Christophers and Barraud (1931). We have also been able to examine eggs of *An. culicifacies* s.l. from Pakistan (kindly supplied by Dr. S. J. Miles), which conform to the description given above; length, 0.44 - 0.47 mm, 18 - 19 float ridges.

LITERATURE CITED

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Fig. 1 - Egg of *Anopheles (Cellia) culicifacies adenensis*

