

BOOK REVIEW

TAXONOMISTS' GLOSSARY OF MOSQUITO ANATOMY, 1980, by Ralph E. Harbach and Kenneth L. Knight. Published for the Biological Research Institute of America by Plexus Publishing Inc., Box 550, Marlton, New Jersey 08053. xi + 415 Pages. Price, \$24.95.

Mosquito identification relies principally on differences in the features of the sclerotized portions of the body of the insect. The authors of this book have attempted in a comprehensive illustrated glossary to bring about a standardization of terms used in mosquito taxonomy. However, those among us who have had experience in this field know how difficult it is to get taxonomists to adopt uniformity in the use of morphological terms. All terms known by the authors are included in the glossary with the recommended or accepted term appearing before the definition and a list of its synonyms. Synonymous terms can be located in the text by using the index. The first known use of each term is indicated. Abbreviations and references to figures are given for each recommended or accepted term.

The anatomical and descriptive terminology is treated in this work under five headings, adult, egg, larva, pupa, and vestiture. Fully labeled figures and tables follow the text. The page preceding each figure contains a brief explanation of the structures that are illustrated. One hundred and ten pages are devoted to the adult mosquito and includes 27 figures and 1 table; 18 pages are given to the treatment of the egg stage and includes 5 figures; 146 pages are devoted to the larva and includes 40 figures and 14 tables; 20 pages are given to the pupal stage and includes 6 figures and 8 tables; and 16 pages are devoted to vestiture and includes 5 figures. The inclusion of some excellent scanning electron microscope photographs of various morphological structures adds to the interest and value of this book.

Twenty-four pages are devoted to Literature Cited in this book and contains about 544 pertinent and carefully selected references. The index covers the following 65 pages.

The authors are to be commended for the preparation of this comprehensive glossary which can contribute so much to the furtherance of research on identification and descriptions of mosquitoes, probably our best known insects. The book is not only an essential tool for those workers engaged in mosquito taxonomy but should serve as an example of what can be done in furthering our knowledge of other groups of insects.

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