THE DATA LABELS OF AEDES (OCHLEROTATUS) NIGROCANUS

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The article by Lane (1992) on Aedes (Ochlerotatus) nigrocanus Martini brought interesting comments from C.D. Ramsdale, Brighton, England, on Martini's data labels. He sent the following notes, which are repeated in full. This information is presented here to clarify the type locality of Ae. nigrocanus.

The English translation of the bottom label is 'Between Afyon and Eskishehir on the train 1926.'

Afyon (in full Afyonkarahisar—Opium-blackfortress) and Eskishehir—Oldtown (in the Turkish alphabet SH is represented by the letter S with a cedilla) are important railway junctions on the Anatolian plateau, separated by about 70 miles as the crow flies and something over 100 miles by rail. In 1926 there would have been stations on the then existing Istanbul—Aleppo railway.

The type locality "Anatolischen Bahn", or Anatolian (rail) road, Turkey, agrees with this. Respective altitudes are; 1025m—Afyon and 792m—Eskishehir.

The top label, "Vogel. coll. 6951", would indicate that the specimen was collected by R. Vogel, a German entomologist between the wars.

According to the Times Atlas (1990), Afyon has the coordinates 38°46′N–30°32′E and Eskishehir 39°46′N–30°30′E.

Clem Ramsdale has spent much time in Turkey where he worked as WHO malaria entomologist. I am grateful to Clem for providing this information.

REFERENCES CITED

Lane, C.J. 1992. Aedes (Ochlerotatus) nigrocanus Martini, its taxonomic status (Diptera: Culicidae). Mosq. Syst. 24:12–15. Times Atlas. 1990. The Times atlas of the world. Eighth comprehensive edition. Times Books, London.