of California, for the initial identification of the first collection of this species. The assistance of James R. Earnest, Animal & Vector Control Director, and Robert Meighen, Vector Control Supervisor, is gratefully acknowledged.

References

A SIMPLE METHOD FOR ARTIFICIALLY FEEDING MOSQUITOES

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Artificial feeding methods have varied from sophisticated apparatus such as that designed by Greberg and Karr (1971), Greenberg (1949), and Tarsis (1955) to simpler methods such as those described by Tarsis (1955), and the rat-tail method used by D. K. Lov and described to W. D. Sudia (1971).

The rat-tail method using the skin of the tail as the blood holding membrane has been used successfully by this laboratory to feed Anopheles stephensi, but in recent experiments it was found that Culex pipiens quinquespinosus could not, or would not, probe the skin of the tail to feed on human blood.

A new and simple method of artificial feeding has been developed by this laboratory using the Haustorium membrane as a feeding surface for the mosquito. Whole human or animal blood, approximately 2-3 ml, was placed in 12 x 100 mm test tubes, each covered with approximately 3 in. of the membrane that was stretched over the tube opening and secured with a rubber band. The tubes, while still in a vertical position, were placed into a holding rack constructed of 1/2 in. hardware-cloth (Figure 1) that was temporarily tilted back 90° to hold the tubes upright. The rack containing the tubes was then placed into a warming oven or shallow water bath to bring the temperature of the blood up to 98-100°F. The tubes were maintained in a vertical position while warming the blood in order that expanding air could escape through the membrane.

The rack containing the test tubes was then placed in the normal position (Figure 1) in order that the tubes would be tilted at a 45° angle and