

to the pale form which has since perpetuated itself, and 2) the expression of genetic factors, possibly multiple recessive in nature. Evidence for the former might be found in the case of *Okanagodes gracilis* Davis where oftentimes the entire sample of a population will be pale. The differences in observed ratios of numbers of dark, intermediate, and pallid individuals of populations of *O. vanduzeei* Distant however could probably be better explained on the basis of the expression of recessive genetic factors. Unfortunately cicadas do not lend themselves to the type of experimental work which it would be necessary to employ in order to work out a solution to this problem.

A NOTE ON OTOBIUS LAGOPHILUS (ACARINA:ARGASIDAE)

This brief note contributes a new locality record of the tick *Otobius lagophilus* Cooley and Kohls, in California. Over 200 unfed larvae and five females of this species were collected from the immediate entrance to an active rodent burrow in Lonetree Canyon near Tracy, San Joaquin County, California, in August, 1951. This burrow was one of several which were dispersed some five to ten feet above the canyon floor in sandstone cliffs. The location was approximately five miles equidistant from a sheep ranch to the east and a cattle ranch to the northwest. Fresh droppings from sheep, cattle, and various rodents were in evidence in the immediate vicinity.

Upon returning to this area in June, 1952, 13 males, 11 females and two cast nymphal skins were recovered. Four specimens were taken from the original site of the 1951 collection and 20 specimens plus the two nymphal skins were taken from the fine sand underneath an old watering trough in the center of the canyon floor. One male *Sylvilagus bachmani* (Waterhouse) was shot immediately south of this area but upon examination proved negative for *O. lagophilus*.

The only other published California record of this species of tick is an account of 17 nymphs taken around Barstow, San Bernardino County in 1924. Other records on the collection of this species are from Alberta, Canada; Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon and Wyoming.¹

These ticks are usually associated with members of the Lagomorpha, namely, species of *Lepus* and *Sylvilagus*. They have also been recorded once from a cat and also once from inside rodent burrows. Such a collection extends the known distribution of this species in California and lends further support to the belief that many small rodents may play a more significant role as a host animal than heretofore suspected.—EDMOND C. LOOMIS, Bureau of Vector Control, 2180 Milvia St., Berkeley 4, Calif.

¹ Cooley, R. A. and G. M. Kohls. 1944. The Argasidae of North America, Central America and Cuba. Amer. Midland Nat., Monograph No. 1.



Loomis, E C. 1953. "A note on Otobius lagophilus (Acarina: Argasidae)." *The Pan-Pacific entomologist* 29, 198.

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