

THE OCCURRENCE OF ORTHOPODOMYIA ALBA  
BAKER IN TENNESSEE (DIPTERA: CULICIDAE)<sup>1</sup>

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Since its description by Baker (1936) the tree-hole mosquito, *Orthopodomyia alba* Baker, has been considered noteworthy inasmuch as it is a rare mosquito being restricted and local in its distribution. As shown by Jenkins and Carpenter (1946), the adult of this species cannot be reliably distinguished from *Orthopodomyia signifera* (Coq.) to which it is closely related. Consequently, only those records of occurrence based on larval collections are generally recognized as definite evidence of the presence of *O. alba* in a new locality. The validity of the specific status of *O. alba* based on larval characters has been strengthened by the work of Wilkins and Breland (1951) who critically examined and described all four larval instars of the species. Darsie (1949) substantiates the specific rank of *O. alba* by pupal chaetotaxy.

The southeastern states from which *O. alba* has previously been reported are: Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, and Georgia (Jenkins and Carpenter, 1946; Sudia and Gogel, 1953). On July 11, 1955, the writer removed the water from a hole in an elm tree located on the campus of The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Thirty larvae of *O. alba* were taken along with fifteen larvae of *O. signifera* and several of *Aedes triseriatus* (Say). The water was replaced in the hole and on July 26, 1955, another collection was made in which twenty-four larvae of *O. alba* were taken along with three *Aedes triseriatus* larvae. No specimens of *O. signifera* were taken in the latter collection. The tree hole was rather small, holding less than a quart of deeply stained brownish-black water.

Since several writers have expressed interest in larval variations of this species, especially of a geographic nature, material is being prepared for subsequent investigations.

LITERATURE CITED

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