

**RESULTS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK-IRANIAN
ENTOMOLOGICAL EXPEDITION TO IRAN 1970****(With enclosed results of collections made in Anatolia)**No. 6: **Diptera: Culicidae**

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The Czechoslovak expedition of the Entomology Department of the National Museum in Prague to Iran in 1970 collected some material of mosquitoes of the family Culicidae. The mosquitoes were collected in localities of Northern Iran and southern Turkey, either during their attacks on man or in their day shelters.

***Anopheles maculipennis* Meigen, 1818, s. l.**

3 ♀♀ — Khorram-abad, 90 m., 14. 8. 1970, Mazandaran, North Iran (loc. no. 94).

In specimens obtained values of scale index were found to be 10. 2.—10. 4. which are characteristic of the species. *An. messeae* Falleroni, 1926. The said locality is situated on the southern boundary of the distribution area of this species covering the moderate zone of the Palaearctic region; among all closely related species belonging to the group of *Anopheles maculipennis* s. l. (Markévich 1957, Gutsevich et al. 1970) this species reaches the northernmost boundary of distribution.

Due to the fact that the species identification was not verified in egg deposits, the specimens in question might have belonged to the species *An. subalpinus* Hackett et Lewis, 1935, reported from the Transcaucasian region (Gutsevich et al. 1970), and from Iran (publication of University of Teheran, 1970).

***Anopheles hyrcanus* (Pallas, 1771)**

1 ♀ — Erdemli, 24.—26. 8. 1970, South Anatolia, Turkey (loc. no. 109).

***Anopheles hyrcanus* ab. *pseudopictus* Grassi, 1899**

16 ♂♂ — Shahi, 5 km. S. of the town, 1. 8. 1970, Mazandaran, North Iran (loc. no. 80) and Khorram-abad, 90 m., 14. 8. 1970, Mazandaran, North Iran (loc. no. 94).

Specimens belonging to ab. *pseudopictus* were more numerous, differing from the nominate form in white colouring of 4th segment of tarsi of hind pair of legs.

***Aedes (Ochlerotatus) pulchritarsis* (Rondani, 1872)**

1 ♀ — Khorram-abad, 90 m., 14. 8. 1970, Mazandaran, North Iran (loc. no. 94).

The specimen collected belongs to the subspecies *Ae. pulchritarsis pulchritarsis* (Rond.). *Ae. pulchritarsis* develops only in tree filled with water, which is characteristic of the locality in question (See description of localities by L. Hoberlandt, Introduction).

***Aedes (Aedimorphus) vexans* Meigen, 1830**

1 ♀ — Erdemli, 24. 8. 1970, South Anatolia, Turkey (loc. no. 109).

***Culex (Culex) tritaeniorhynchus* Giles, 1901**

5 ♀♀ — Erdemli, 24.–26. 8. 1970, South Anatolia, Turkey (loc. no. 109).

***Culex (Culex) pipiens* Linné, 1758**

3 ♂♂ and 1 ♀ — 23 km. S. W. of Marand, 17. 8. 1970, Azarbaidjan, N. W. Iran (loc. no. 97).

Discussion. The zoogeographical listing of the mosquito species identified is very interesting as it indicates the border character of the territory studied spreading between the Palaearctic and Oriental regions. Among the species belonging to the group of *Anopheles maculipennis* s. l. *An. messeae* is a typical Palaearctic species distributed throughout the major part of Eurasia as far as the Northern Polar Circle, while *An. subalpinus* inhabits the southeastern Mediterranean region. The distribution area of the species *Anopheles hyrcanus* and *Aedes pulchritarsis* includes the southern part of the Palaearctic region (namely the Mediterranean subregion) and part of the Oriental region. The distribution centre of *Culex tritaeniorhynchus* is the tropic and subtropic zone of the Oriental and Ethiopian regions (Stone et al. 1959, Gusevich et al. 1970 etc.). *Aedes vexans* and *Culex pipiens* belong to the mosquito species with the widest, almost cosmopolitan distribution. They are mostly mosquito species with several generations per year and with considerable ecological adaptability.

Most species found are also important from the medical view-point as parasites of man and vectors of infectious agents. (Gutsevich 1943, Gutsevich et al. 1970, Petrihtsheva et al. 1963, Scientific publication of the University of Teheran 1970.)

Summary

The insect material collected by the expedition of the Entomology Department of the National Museum, Prague in Iran and Turkey included 6 species of mosquitoes belonging to 3 genera: *Anopheles maculipennis* s. l. (group), *An. hyrcanus* (Pallas), *Aedes pulchritarsis* (Rondani), *Ae. vexans* Meigen, *Culex tritaeniorhynchus* Giles and *C. pipiens* Linné.

The zoogeographical assessment of the material in question (family Culicidae) shows that distribution areas of species of Palearctic and Oriental regions meet in the territory studied. The species identified are known as parasites of man and vectors of some infectious agents.

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