

ness of each individual in most sexually reproducing organisms. Also, data from studies of populations have provided evidence that (1) no two local populations of a species are identical, and (2) local populations can vary in time. The differences within and among populations are thought to result from genetic adjustments that lead to the production of a phenotype adapted to the local environment. The idea that the types and levels of variation can be related to environmental patterns suggests the need to conduct field research on native populations of insects being considered as candidates for biological and/or genetic control programs. Data from field studies would be invaluable for establishing sampling methods to obtain representative colonies of given species. In the absence of field work, sampling procedures must continue to be haphazard, and the only recommendations possible are as follows:

1. When using members of a species against their native counterparts, it is probably best to establish colonies using as many insects as it is economically feasible to collect from the area where future releases will be made.
2. When introducing an insect into a new area it is probably best to establish colonies using as many individuals as it is economically feasible to collect from an area very similar to the future release site.

Whenever possible, sampling for any colonization program should take into account the activity periods of the insect.

### BOOK REVIEW

**Mites of Moths and Butterflies.** Asher E. Treat. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, N. Y. 362 pp., 150 figs. \$35.00. 1975.

This authoritative book is a thorough and definitive treatment of mites associated with moths and butterflies. The author, Professor Emeritus at City University and Research Associate at the American Museum of Natural History, describes all forms of parasitic, stowaway, and transient mites. The introductory chapters describe the early history, as well as the techniques employed in the study of mites. The systematics and biology, occurrence, distribution, and behavior are expertly presented and cross indexed. The excellent illustrations throughout the text increase the value of this classical study. Biological information on all mites associated with Lepidoptera has been summarized. Two keys, to living mites seen at 20–40  $\times$  magnification, and to mounted specimens requiring 400–100  $\times$  magnification, comprise Appendix A. Host species are listed in Appendix B. Extensive literature citations, a geographic index, and a general index complete the volume. The book is intended for amateur and professional lepidopterists, but it will be of interest to general entomologists as well. It provides the only comprehensive treatment of mite parasites and scavengers found on butterflies and moths worldwide.

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