

WHEN TO COLLECT TABANIDAE.

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WHILE the Tabanidae are to be found in considerable numbers during the late spring and throughout the summer, there is generally a certain time when they are unusually abundant. This depends to a great extent on the latitude. In Florida they are most numerous during the latter part of May and stock suffer severely unless protected. The most characteristic species of this region are *Tabanus trjunctus* Walk., *T. mexicanus* L., *T. fuscopunctatus* Macq., and *T. megerlei* Wied., while *Diachlorus ferrugutus* Fabr. is often very annoying.

In Georgia and the Carolinas they are more abundant during the first two weeks of June, the species more or less confined to this section being *T. turbidus* Wd., *T. fronto* O. S., *T. endymion* O. S., *T. tenera* O. S., and the two black species *T. lugubris* Macq., and *T. wiedemanni* O. S. During the latter part of June while cruising along the west side of the Chesapeake Bay in search of miocene fossils I found Tabanidae very plentiful.

But the principal captures I wish to record were those made at Riverton, N. J. On July 4, 1902, it was my good fortune to run across a gentle cow that was tethered on a low piece of land near a creek with springs and a pond in close proximity, an ideal breeding place for Tabanids, and the day, an ideal one for the imagos. The cow was the center of attraction. I was her friend and she seemed to understand thoroughly what I was doing. In about two hours I had captured 12 species and 98 specimens of the genus *Tabanus*. On the 6th I again visited my pet cow and was rewarded by two additional species, and 102 specimens, divided among the following species:

<i>T. trimaculatus</i> Pal.-Beau.	29	<i>T. fulvulus</i> Wied.	3
<i>T. pumilus</i> Macq.	18	<i>T. lineola</i> Fabr.	3
<i>T. sparsus</i> Whitney	16	<i>T. coffeatus</i> Macq.	2
<i>T. trispilus</i> Wied.	9	<i>T. costalis</i> Wied.	2
<i>T. nivosus</i> O. S.	8	<i>T. recedens</i> Walk.	1
<i>T. stygius</i> Say.	5	<i>T. lasiophthalmus</i> Macq.	1
<i>T. superjumentarius</i> Whit.	4	<i>T. cinctus</i> Fabr.	1

During the summer of 1903 I was equally fortunate in finding another gentle cow at Auburndale, Mass., but at no time did I find Tabanids very numerous. The following is a list of the species taken:— *T. hinei* Johnson, *T. superjumentarius*, *T. lineola* and *T. pumilus*, on July 12; *T. coffeatus*, *T. stygius*, *T. atratus* and *T. sparsus*, on August 2.



Johnson, Charles Willison. 1904. "When to Collect Tabanidae." *Psyche* 11, 35–35. <https://doi.org/10.1155/1904/48128>.

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