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NOTE

First Report of *Ochlerotatus condolescens* (Dyar and Knab) (Diptera: Culicidae) in the United States

A species of mosquito, *Ochlerotatus* (*Ochlerotatus*) *condolescens* (Dyar and Knab), new to the United States and to Florida has been found in Monroe County, Florida. It belongs to the Scapularis Group, Infirmatus Subgroup of the genus *Ochlerotatus* (Arnell 1976) and closely resembles *Oc. infirmatus* (Dyar and Knab) with which it has been confused. Hughes (1961) reported a single female intercepted on an airplane arriving in the United States. Whether it is a new introduction or an unrecognized indigenous species is unknown.

One first female of *Oc. condolescens* was collected on VI/19/00 in a dry ice-baited American Biophysics Company light trap on HOWE KEY (24°73′64″N, 81°40′33″W) (J. Vlach). In addition, I have seen a total of 12 ♀ and 1 ♂ as follows: ANNETTE KEY (24°74′57″N, 81°38′47″W), VII/11/00, 1 ♀ (J. Vlach), KEY LARGO (25°14′28″N, 80°W), Solid Waste Transfer Station, VIII/20/02, 1 ♂; Ocean Reef, IX/17/02, 2 ♀; Gun Club, IX/17/02, 2 ♀; Crocodile Lake, IX/12/02, 1 ♀ (D. DeMay); BIG PINE KEY (24°66′78″N, 81°35′63″W), X/26/02, 5 ♀, VACA KEY (24°72′17″N, 81°08′23″W), X/28/02, 1 ♀, (L. Hribar), all collected in light traps. There is evidence that it may be common. I have the records of 177 adult females from Big Pine Key, Sugarloaf Key, Boca Chica Key, and Key West City captured during 2002 for virus isolation and identified as *Ochlerotatus infirmatus* (Dyar and Knab) based on the presence of the large white scutal patch, a character shared with *Oc. condolescens*. Other species trapped with it were *Ochlerotatus tortilis* (Theobald), *Oc. taeniorhynchus* (Wiedemann), *Culex iolambdis* Dyar, *Cx. nigripalpus* Theobald, *Cx. peccator* Dyar and Knab and *Cx. atratus* Theobald.

The female of *Oc. condolescens* is recognized by the scutum with a broad anterior patch of white scales, no knee spots of white scales on the femora, broad, basal bands of white scales on abdominal terga II–VI (see Fig. 1) and claws of hindleg without a submedian tooth, whereas *Oc. infirmatus* also has the scutum with a broad patch of white scales and no femoral knee spots but the abdominal terga II–VI are entirely dark-scaled except for lateral triangular basal white patches and the claws on the hindlegs have a submedian tooth. Like *Oc. infirmatus, Oc. condolescens* has abdominal sterna I–VII entirely white-scaled. The male genitalia of *Oc. condolescens* has fewer than 60 setae on the sternomesal aspect of the gonocoxite between the basal dorsomesal lobe and the gonostylus while *Oc. infirmatus* has about 75 (Arnell 1976). Surprisingly, the immature stages of *Oc. condolescens* are unknown. However, Perez Vigueras (1956) described what he believed was the larva from French Guiana. Arnell (1976) maintained that the larva is unknown and that the species is not known outside the Greater Antilles.

Knight and Stone (1977) reported *Oc. condolescens* from the Caribbean Islands through Central and South America to Argentina; however, Arnell (1976) restricted it to the Bahama Islands, Cuba, and the Cayman Islands, claiming that records from the Neotropical countries were misidentifications.

Little is known about its bionomics and public health importance. Arnell (1976) did report that adults were taken biting man in deep to partial shade in late afternoon. It appears to be firmly established in Monroe County based on the number of adults which have been collected thus far

Fig. 1. *Ochlerotatus condolescens* adult female showing white scale patch on the scutum and the basal white bands on the abdominal terga.

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