

A NEW SPECIES OF *Aedes* FROM FLORIDA¹
(Diptera: Culicidae)

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In a routine collection of mosquitoes from Kissimmee, Florida, sent to this laboratory for identification there appeared a specimen of *Aedes* which was recognized as a unique. At first it was thought to be an exotic and the fact that it was taken at an Army airport seemed to substantiate this belief. The specimen was sent to Dr. Alan Stone of the United States National Museum who kindly examined the specimen and suggested we make an intensive search for additional specimens. A second female, collected by John A. Mulrennan, arrived at the museum several days later and was forwarded to the author by Dr. Stone. This female was taken at MacDill Field, approximately 80 miles southwest of Kissimmee. Subsequently, there came into the possession of the author a third female from Pinecastle which is only a few miles northwest of Kissimmee, and on November 1, 1943, a male specimen was taken in a light trap at Camp Murphy which is about 125 miles southeast of Kissimmee on the Atlantic coast.

This species is at least locally distributed over a wide area of central and southern Florida and appears to be a late summer and fall species.

It gives the author pleasure to name this species in honor of a friend and former professor, Dr. Robert Matheson of Cornell University.

Aedes (*Ochlerotatus*) *mathesoni*, n. sp.

Female.—Vertex of head with a rather broad triangular patch of white, recumbent, lanceolate scales which extend posteriorly over the occiput, and bordered anteriorly by a small patch of black, lanceolate scales. Postgenae clothed with broad, appressed, yellowish-white scales, and a few scattered dark ones. Many slender, erect, slightly forked, black scales on occiput. Tori fuscus, shading to black on anterior surface a few small black scales on inner surface. Palpi short, black, with purplish iridescence. Proboscis rather long, slender, black, with faint purplish iridescence. Clypeus brownish-black, nude. Mesonotum with a narrow, median line of curved, very small, golden brown scales, bordered by small black scales which laterally become somewhat coarser. An elongate patch of yellowish-white scales on the anterior angles of the meson-

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tum and a somewhat similar patch, laterally on middle of mesonotum. A few yellowish-white, lanceolate scales laterally on mesonotum just above the origin of the wing. Ante-scutellar space with a few yellowish-white, lanceolate scales. Bulb of halteres covered with dark purplish scales. Prosternum with mostly purplish-iridescent scales. Sternopleuron, upper mesepimeron and a line on lower post-spiracular plate bordering sternopleuron with scattered patches of broad, white scales. Wing scales purplish black. Legs purplish black. Scales on coxae, trochanters, base of anterior femur, a line on inner surface of anterior femur, which widens over entire inner surface of basal two-thirds of mid- and hind femora, and a small knee spot at each femoro-tibial joint, white. A narrow white ring more conspicuous on outer surface, on base and apex of metatarsi and base of second tarsal segments; in addition the hind tarsus with apex of second and base of third segments similarly ringed. Abdomen uniform purplish black, without markings dorsally, laterally with small triangular basal segmental white spots, which extend over basal third of ventral segments.

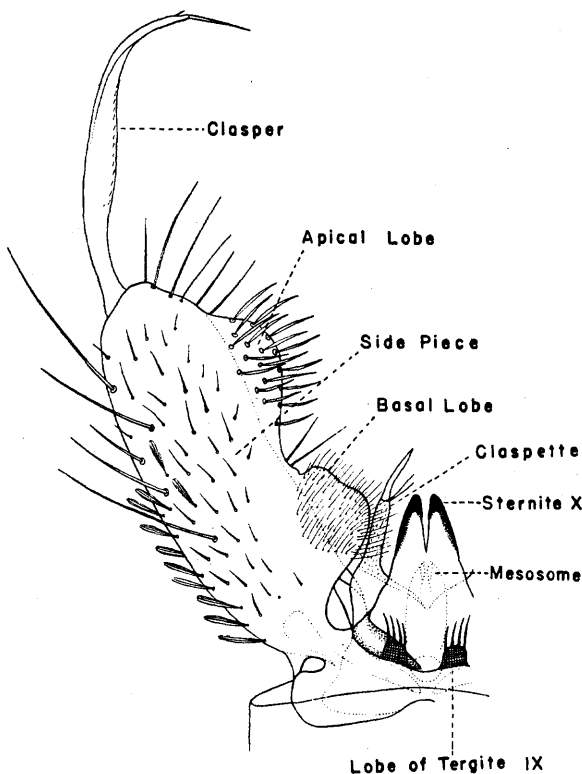


Fig. 1—Male genitalia of *Aedes (Ochlerotatus) mathesoni*, m. sp.

Male.—Similar to female except in the following detail: Postgenae with wider band of broad yellowish-white scales. Mesonotal vestiture rather badly rubbed but appears essentially the same as in the female. Fore- and mid-legs dark at base of metatarsi; hind legs dark beyond base of second tarsal segment; whitish scales confined to small patch on outside of leg. Abdomen uniform purplish black without markings dorsally, laterally with conspicuous basal segmental white triangles. Venter with purplish-black scales.

Male genitalia.—(Fig. 1) Clasper long, swollen in middle, with short terminal spine. Side-piece stout, rounded at tip; apical setae one-fourth length of clasper; apical lobe large, rounded, bearing dense, rather long, blade-shaped setae from distinct tubercles; basal lobe large, truncate with many fine setae arising from small tubercles; no spine present. Claspette with straight, narrow stem, two small hairs near apex; the filament narrow linear about one-half length of claspette. Tenth sternite narrow, thickened at apex, with rounded, adjacent tips. Ninth tergites small, rounded, each with four evenly arranged apical spines.

Holotype.—Female, Kissimmee, Florida, September 17, 1943. Caught in light trap.

Allotype.—Male, Camp Murphy, Florida, November 1, 1943. (Light trap.)

Paratypes.—Female, MacDill Field, Tampa, Florida, September 18, 1943. (Light trap.) Collected by John A. Mulrennan. Female, Pinecastle, Florida, October 23, 1943. (Resting station.)

Holotype, allotype and one paratype in the collection of the United States National Museum. One paratype (Pinecastle) in the collection of the author.

This species is most closely related to *Aedes canadensis* (Theob.), but that species lacks the nearly black scales of the mesonotum and the white areas on the legs are more extensive. The male genitalia of *canadensis* differ only slightly, the spines of the ninth tergites being less regularly placed and more abundant, and the tenth sternites being somewhat curved and acutely apically.
