



Anopheles quadrimaculatus (s.l.) Biology

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An. quadrimaculatus larvae are found in permanent fresh water in sluggish streams, canals, ponds, and lakes containing surface-growing or emergent vegetation or floating debris, and only occasionally in pools of a temporary nature. The eggs are deposited by the female singly upon the surface of the water, but tend to arrange themselves in rather definite patterns. The larvae feed almost entirely upon small organisms at the water surface; they do not appear to make any selection of their food, but ingest any material small enough to be swept into the mouth by the mouth brushes.

The females of *An. quadrimaculatus* are active feeders on man and on wild and domesticated animals. The adults are active principally at night and rest in dark corners in buildings, underneath houses, in stables, in hollow trees, and other shelters during daylight hours. They are very active for a short period after dusk, but during the remainder of the night their activities are probably limited mostly to flights in search of a blood meal except for another active period at dawn when they shift to day time resting places. These mosquitoes are most likely to be collected in the spring and fall months in Brunswick county.

An. quadrimaculatus is also known as the malaria mosquito. The last out break of malaria in North Carolina was in the 1940's. We consider this mosquito to be of medium importance to the citizens of Brunswick County.

REFERENCE

Carpenter, S. J. and W. J. LaCasse. 1955. Mosquitoes of North America (North of Mexico), University of California Press, Berkeley. 360 pp., 127 pl.