



# *Ochlerotatus thibaulti* Biology

By Rick Hickman and Jeff Brown  
Brunswick County Mosquito Control

*Ochlerotatus thibaulti* larvae are found in the flooded bases of cypress, sweet- and tupelo-gum trees growing in low areas subject to flooding in Brunswick County. They are rarely found in the hollow bases of other kinds of trees in similar locations. The larvae are most numerous during late February through May. The larvae and pupae remain for the most part in the hollow bases of roots and other parts of the tree cavity away from the light. The eggs may remain viable for more than one year when their breeding places are not flooded.

The adults do not seem to fly far but remain near their breeding places, resting among vegetation or in hollow bases of trees and stumps. The females are persistent biters, attacking even at midday when their haunts are invaded. The bites are painful and the wheals may remain a day or more. We consider this mosquito to be of low 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.