



Orthopodomyia signifera Biology

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Orthopodomyia signifera larvae occur in water-filled rot cavities in trees of many types and occasionally in artificial, particularly wooden, containers. The eggs are laid singly or in twos or threes close to the water line on the side of the container. Since oviposition takes place on or near the water, the rise and fall of water in the tree holes does not affect the abundance of the larvae. The winter is passed in the larval stage, at least in the Brunswick County. The larvae are slow in developing, and two or more broods are frequently found together in a single habitat.

The adults are often found resting on tree trunks near the larval habitat or inside the tree hole in which the immature stages develop. This mosquito has never been documented to bite people, but it is known to take avian blood. 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.