



Psorophora ciliata Biology

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Psorophora ciliata eggs are deposited in small depressions or cracks in the soil and probably do not hatch until after a winter in hibernation. The larvae occur principally in unshaded temporary rain-filled pools where they develop rapidly, usually requiring 4 to 6 days. The pupal stage is usually complete in 2 days. The larvae are predacious, commonly feeding on other mosquito larvae with which they may be associated in their aquatic habitats, *Ps. columbiae* for example. The larva hangs from the surface of the water nearly in a vertical position. The larvae may be found from June to October in the Brunswick County.

Ps. ciliata females are persistent biters, attacking any time during the day when their haunts are invaded and inflicting a painful injury. This is one of Brunswick County's largest mosquitoes. Typically they are about the size of a quarter. This mosquito is sometimes called the "gallinipper". It is not uncommon to see large numbers of these mosquitoes in a post hurricane situation.

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.