



# *Psorophora columbiae* Biology

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*Psorophora columbiae* females lay their eggs on damp soil in depressions subject to flooding by rainfall. The larval period is relatively short, usually requiring 3 to 5 days. This mosquito can be found in areas with flat sheets water, usually 3 to 6 inches deep. *Ps. columbiae* prefers habitats with direct sunlight. She can be found in pastures, lawns, golf courses and open fields. As the water at the larval site dries up during their larval development, it is not uncommon to dip hundreds of larvae with a single dip after the water recedes and the larvae become concentrated.

*Ps. columbiae* males, on the average, emerge several hours before the females and remain on the vegetation at the breeding site until the females emerge. The adults are readily attracted to light traps. The flight range of *Ps. columbiae* may be as great as 9 miles. The females are persistent biters, attacking any time during the day or night. This mosquito can be collected in the County from May through October. We consider this mosquito to be of high importance to the citizens of Brunswick County because of its nuisance potential.

## 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.