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Seasonal Abundance of Some Mosquito Species in Israel During a Survey 1965 - 8\*

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During a mosquito survey in Israel in the years 1965 - 68, 95, 000 adult mosquitoes were caught. Data of monthly catches of the three most prevalent species Culex pipiens molestus Forskal, Culex univittatus Theobald and Anopheles coustani Laveran in 1966 have been reported elsewhere (Nir et al. 1968). However, data on the seasonal abundance of other species were also obtained and are given here.

The mosquitoes were caught by means of miniature light traps (Sudia & Chamberlain 1962) with dry ice (Newhouse et al. 1968). In each locality six traps were suspended at a height of 11/2 meters from sunset to dawn once every month throughout the year. Mosquitoes were identified under light carbon dioxide anesthesia on the day of the catch.

The collection sites were: Nahal Soreq near Palmahim in the Southern Coastal Plain, Gan Shmuel in the Central Plain, Kefar Masaryk in Emek Zevulun, the Hula Nature Reserve, and Ne'ot Hakikar in the Dead Sea Area. The last locality was visited only from March till October.

The Table shows average monthly catches of the various species in the different localities for the 4-year period. While Culex p. molestus, C. univittatus and An. coustani comprised 93% of all the mosquitoes identified, data were also obtained on the seasonal abundance of the less common species. Culex theileri Theobald,

Aedes detritus (Haliday) and Culiseta annulata (Schrank) occur in Israel mainly in winter. Mansonia richiardi (Ficalbi) found only at the Hula Nature Reserve, Culex tritaeniorhynchus Giles and Uranotaenia unguiculata Edward occur mainly during the warmer months. Aedes caspius (Pallas) and Culiseta longioreolata (Macquart) are prevalent throughout the year, but since these species do not enter light traps easily, they cannot be studied by this method.

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Table I. Number of mosquitoes collected per visit according to species, locality and month

Month	<u>Culex pipiens molestus</u>	<u>Culex theileri</u>		<u>Culex tritaeniorhynchus</u>	<u>Culex univittatus</u>	<u>Aedes caspius</u>	<u>Aedes detritus</u>	
	Total of all places	Kefar Masaryk	Gan Shmuel	Hula	Total of all places	Total of Masaryk, Gan Shmuel, Nahal Soreq	Kefar Masaryk	Neot HaKikar
Jan	220	14	1	0	7	5	19	-
Feb	64	-	0	0	4	5	-	-
Mar	594	14	15	0	67	115	91	58
Apr	2167	6	1	1	19	64	292	83
May	4465	3	1	117	469	144	0	0
June	5118	7	0	303	350	575	0	0
July	1949	0	0	843	891	33	0	0
Aug	1014	0	0	253	514	294	0	0
Sept	2890	1	0	12	885	114	0	0
Oct	1579	8	0	9	425	44	0	0
Nov	459	24	7	0	40	16	2	-
Dec	498	79	0	0	17	41	53	-
Total	21,017	156	26	1638	3678	1450	457	141

Month	<u>Culiseta annulata</u>		<u>Uranotaenia unguiculata</u>		<u>Mansonia richiardii</u>	<u>Anopheles algeriensis</u>	<u>Anopheles coustani</u>	
	Total of Masaryk, Gan Shmuel, Nahal Soreq	Hula	Gan Shmuel	Hula	Hula	Hula	Masaryk	Hula
Jan	6	-	0	-	-	-	0	-
Feb	0	3	2	2	0	2	-	227
Mar	5	10	0	0	0	45	-	168
Apr	12	7	27	28	0	8	18	21
May	5	41	46	16	42	21	12	720
June	0	3	39	58	17	1	3	305
July	0	0	95	16	11	0	49	867
Aug	0	4	136	13	7	0	9	1019
Sept	0	3	137	14	0	0	12	301
Oct	0	2	7	15	1	1	21	405
Nov	2	3	0	0	0	1	1	285
Dec	3	14	0	0	0	0	0	251
Total	33	100	489	162	78	79	125	4569

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