W. MOHRIG. DIE CULICIDEN DEUTSCHLANDS. UNTERSUCHUNGEN ZUR TAXONOMIE, BIOLOGIE UND ÖKOLOGIE DER EINHEIMISCHEN STECHMÜCKEN.

Parasitologische Schriftenreihe, Heft 18, 260 S., VEB G. Fischer Verlag Jena 1969. (Preis 54, 90 M.)

For many years Martini's monograph Culicidae (1931) has been the basic work for the studies on Europaen mosquitoes including also the mosquitoes of Germany. Since then some German researchers have published a considerable number of papers dealing with the systematics, fauna and ecology of mosquitoes occurring in Germany, but an all-embracing compilation of these data has been still missing. This gap has now been filled up by Mohrig's comprehensive monograph. It includes all aerlier as well as the most recent faunistic and ecologic knowledge from the territory of both present German states and also new views taken of the systematics of mosquitoes.

The book is divided into 12 chapters. The author first deals with the methods applied and then with the systematic position of the family Culicidae. Next chapter provides a brief survey of morphology and is followed by the determination tables to separate developmental stages (females, males, larvae of IV stage, pupae). The subsequent chapters deal with all 44 species of mosquitoes found in the German territory. Each genus is briefly characterized and there are critical comments to its systematic position, with keys to species (females, males and larvae of IV stage). Each species is provided with reference to the original paper in which it has been first described, and characteristic features of separate developmental stages which are compared differentially with similar species, are pointed out. The following section of the book is devoted to biology (periods of occurrence of separate stages, number of generations), ecological data (biotope, its characteristics, hosts, mosquito species occurring at the same time). Attention is paid to the distribution of mosquitoes in the territory of both German states, with information on localities, time of collection and the collector. A brief information is included on the distribution in Europe or other parts of the world. The concluding chapters contain the synonymy of mosquitoes used in the German literature and a list of species dealt with in the book.

On the whole the monograph is to be highly appraised. Valuable are the author's attempts at finding new criteria for establishing the relationships according to the structure of female's hypopygium in species of the genus *Aëdes*. The keys, including figures of relevant distinguishing characters, have been given careful consideration and are organized with regard to instruction, thus facilitating their use. Also the remaining text dealing with separate genera and species is very comprehensive. Mohrig's treatise may be therefore welcomed as the most up-to-date compilation of information on the fauna of mosquitoes in a part of the European territory. The monograph will be of great interest also to readers from other European countries, primarily from those adjoining the territory of both German states. Although most of the chapters are rather completely done, however, more attention should have been paid to collection and preparation methods used, or at least references to methods given in German literature (e.g. Weyer 1952, Eichler 1952) should have been included to help the beginners.

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