

**Aedes cinereus** Meigen.

This little species pays little attention to the boundaries of faunal regions, but occurs generally throughout forested country. It invades the lower portions of the Pacific coastal area, being found rarely in the Puget Sound region. Larvae were found in the edges of a large lake, half a mile across, near Hoodspport, Washington. In spite of its size, this lake goes completely dry in the summer, and so has the character of a temporary pool.

The *Culex* and *Culiseta* of the region are not so peculiar in their distribution, and have been adequately commented upon previously.

**THE AMERICAN FORMS OF Aedes CINEREUS  
MEIGEN**

(Diptera, Culicidae)

By HARRISON G. DYAR

In the monograph (Howard, Dyar & Knab, Mosq. No. & Cent. Am. & W. I., iv, 729, 1917), we treated the American form of this species as *Aedes fuscus* O. S., but called attention in a footnote to its identity with the European *Aedes cinereus* Meigen. This synonymy has been followed since; but nevertheless, the two forms are not identical. In the European specimens examined by me, at least in the females, the broad scales on the head practically meet vertically, whereas in the American form there is a very distinct channel of narrow scales reaching through to the vertex. The American form, therefore, may be called *Aedes cinereus fuscus* O. S.

The subspecies has a wide distribution in Canada and America, following in the main wooded country, although not reaching to high altitudes or very far north. With this wide distribution, it is never locally abundant. In California, however, a modification occurs. At about the 7,000 foot level, the species takes on a change in coloration and habits, for which I propose the name

**Aedes cinereus hemiteus**, new race.

The channel of narrow scales on the vertex of head is wider

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than in *cinereus fuscus*; the mesonotum is bronzy brown, with two longitudinal black lines and posterior short side stripes; the abdominal bands are variable, often well developed, the lateral widenings touching, but not forming an even lateral band; venter frequently with a more or less distinct median dark band.

Types, five females, Lakes Center Camp, Plumas County, California, June 30-July 1, 1920 (H. G. Dyar). The form was also found in numbers in the valley of the Merced River above 7,000 feet, at Lake Merced and Lake Washburn in June, 1924. The season this year was remarkably early, and adults were on the wing and somewhat worn. Complaint was made by the caretakers at Lake Merced that "a small black mosquito" had been biting about a week before our arrival, which would have been during the last days of May. On June 8 they were no longer biting, but had returned to the meadow, where fed females could easily be flushed from the grass. Males were present in the meadow, all under a single willow bush, which presented no apparent difference from any other willow, yet here were three or four hundred males under this brush and none elsewhere. The females also were in the same vicinity.

The Merced River flows through a solid, glacier-worn, rock bed, and where this bed rises, lakes are necessarily formed. Both Merced and Washburn Lakes are of this character. At the upper end of each lake, the incoming silt has formed a meadow, and the waves beating back against this, have thrown up an elevated beach. Behind this barrier in the low meadow, pools are formed by high water. The peculiar nature of the local breeding places, the large number of specimens occurring where found, the exodus to feed and the marked return home of fed females, all indicate a departure in habits from those of *cinereus fuscus*.

Eggs were obtained from females taken from the meadow, single egg long, fusiform, about five times as long as wide, flattened on one side, shining black.

It is evident that the male which I assigned to *Aedes ventrovittis* (Ins. Ins. Mens., viii, 172, 1920) is this species.