

ANOPHELES XELAJUENSIS DeLEON, A NEW ADDITION TO THE KNOWN ANOPHELINE FAUNA OF PANAMA

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Anopheles xelajuensis DeLeon, was described in 1938 from the high mountains of Guatemala. Vargas in 1942 reported the species from southern Mexico and created the subgenus *Russellia* with this species as the genotype. No other record of it appears in the literature to the writer's knowledge.

During May, 1946, while collecting in the Chiriqui Volcano region, republic of Panama, Dr. G. B. Fairchild, of the Gorgas Memorial Laboratory, and the writer were fortunate in collecting six males and four females of an anopheline identified by the writer as *Anopheles xelajuensis* DeLeon. The specimens were taken while resting in hollow trees in the forest bordering Mr. Louis Martinez' farm, "Carinthia," at an elevation of approximately 6,200 feet.

All the females collected agree rather closely with DeLeon's description of *xelajuensis*, except for the fact that the panamanian specimens have the tip of the wing somewhat darker than the guatemalan female figured by DeLeon. The terminalia of the males from Panama appear to agree in every respect with the published figures of the terminalia of *xelajuensis*.

Mr. W. H. W. Komp, U. S. Public Health Service, who confirmed the writer's identification of this material, informs him that Dr. T. H. G. Aitken collected larvae of *xelajuensis* some years ago in the same general area, but did not rear them through to the adult stage.

The finding of *A. xelajuensis* in Panama increases considerably the known distribution of this species. Further intensive collections in the highlands of Costa Rica and Nicaragua should reveal its presence there, as it appears to have the same general distribution of *Anopheles parapunctipennis*, another highland species known from Mexico, Guatemala, Costa Rica and Panama.

The material on which this report is based has been deposited in the following collections: U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.; George Williams Hooper Foundation for Medical Research, San Francisco, Calif.; Campaña Anti-Malárica, Panama, R. de P.; Mr. W. H. W. Komp's.