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Records of *Culex (Barraudius) modestus* Ficalbi (Diptera, Culicidæ) obtained in the South of England

In the years 1932 and 1940 respectively, two species of mosquitoes which are widely distributed in the Mediterranean region, namely, *Anopheles algeriensis* and *Theobaldia longiareolata*, were recorded for the first time in Britain: the former from a coastal area in Norfolk¹, and the latter from Portsmouth (Hants)². When recording the first-mentioned immigrants, the late F. W. Edwards suggested that they might have been introduced into Britain by aeroplane, and it seems highly probable that the later invasion admits of a similar explanation; although the alternative that the intruders were sea-borne is admittedly (at any rate where the seaport area of Portsmouth is concerned) a possibility. As, however, no descendants of either of these invaders are known to have survived the ensuing winter, the following British records of yet another Mediterranean species may be found of interest. All the specimens concerned in the present case were collected and identified, by my assistant, J. Staley, in the ordinary course of the mosquito control operations which are carried out under his supervision throughout a coastal area of Hampshire having an area of about forty square miles.

On July 27, 1944, while inspecting coastal ditches on the mainland north of Hayling Island, Mr. Staley caught a female mosquito (after allowing it to bite him) which resembled no known British species. This female took a further blood meal, in the laboratory, two days later, but died on August 1. On July 29, however, a similar female had been captured in a house at Hayling Island, situated about three miles south of the point where the first specimen had been taken. I will denote the points of capture of the first and second specimen by *A* and *B* respectively. The second female refused a blood meal and died shortly afterwards. Reference to literature indicated that the females were of the species *Culex (Barraudius) modestus* Ficalbi.

During the past three years, our control work has included the monthly inspection of N.F.S. static water tanks in the city of Portsmouth; and on August 24, 1944, when examining in the laboratory some mosquito larvæ collected from one of these tanks, Mr. Staley found (in company with larvæ of *Anopheles atroparvus* and *Culex pipiens*) three larvæ of a non-British species which corresponded in every