SUMMARY OF THESIS*

CARRÉRI-BRUNO, Glória Cristina - Atividade de culicídeos em área de transição entre o ambiente florestal e o urbano, região do Vale do Ribeira, Estado de São Paulo. São Paulo, 1997. (Dissertação de Mestrado – Faculdade de Saúde Pública da Universidade de São Paulo).

The activity of Culicidae in a transitional area between forested and urban environments, Ribeira Valley region, State of São Paulo, Brazil.

Research on the Culicidae populations of Ribeira Valley is epidemiologically relevant in view of the occurrence of sylvatic cycles of infectious agents, which can cause disease in humans. Aiming at describing the specific composition, monthly distribution, crepuscular and pericrepuscular activity, and epidemiological potential of Culicidae in transitional areas between forested and urban environments, we carried out entomological captures in Parque das Fontes, municipality of Iguape, state of São Paulo, Brazil. Within the period from May 1994 to April 1995, we captured, by bimonthly use of human baits and CDC traps, a total of 8,101 Culicidae specimens, distributed into 13 genera and 75 species of taxonomic groups. The three most abundant species found were, in descending order: *Aedes scapularis, Coquillettidia chrysonotum/albifera* and *Mansonia indubitans*. The degree of biodiversity was highest in the forested, decreasing gradually towards the urban environment. Culicidae were captured throughout the year, peaks having been observed in November, March and May. Crepuscular and pericrepuscular activity showed a peak shortly after twilight. Although many species of Culicidae are potential vectors of infectious agents, *Aedes scapularis*, the most abundant species in all the environments covered in the study, was admittedly the most epidemiologically important, as it has endophagic habits, was captured throughout the year and its competence as a vector of Rocio encephalitis is recognized.

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