

AN ECOLOGICAL STUDY OF ANOPHELES MOSQUITOES  
IN ASUNCION, DAVAO DEL NORTE

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A Thesis  
Presented to  
the Faculty of the Graduate School  
University of San Carlos

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In Partial Fulfillment  
of the Requirements for the Degree  
Master of Science in Biology

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by  
Mrs. Estela Y. Cequiña  
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This thesis entitled "AN ECOLOGICAL STUDY OF ANOPHELES MOSQUITOES IN ASUNCION, DAVAO DEL NORTE," prepared and submitted by Mrs. Estela Y. Cequiña in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science in Biology has been examined and is recommended for acceptance and approval for ORAL EXAMINATION.

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ABSTRACT

This ecological study of Anopheles mosquitoes in Asuncion, Davao del Norte, begun in September 1974 and ended in January 1976.

Ecological survey of these places, particularly the kind of terrain, water pH, and humidity of the air, shows the environmental advantages of these places for Anophelines to thrive in. Socio-economic standard and the mode of life of the people also show the advantage of adult Anophelines for transmission of the disease.

Collection of adult mosquitoes showed that Anophelines are present in the human dwelling as early as right after dusk.

Carabao baited trap method of adult mosquito collection showed that An. minimus flavirostris was the most numerous among the anophelines present. It was also proven through dissection of this said mosquito, that it is the main malaria parasite vector in Davao.

The failure of the Malaria Eradication Program of the government in these places could be attributed to a one-sided method of eradication, that of residual spraying against adult mosquitoes. The fact that there are abundant breeding places for Anopheles in these localities, then larvae eradication process is overlooked.

Another very important factor to be considered in any eradication program is the human element. It is found out in this study that the people are very uncooperative to the Malaria Eradication Program. The very low economic standard of the inhabitants, encourages malaria transmission.

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