

**A NEW METHOD FOR REARING *LUTZOMYIA TRAPIDOI* (DIPTERA: PSYCHODIDAE), WITH OBSERVATIONS ON ITS DEVELOPMENT AND BEHAVIOR IN THE LABORATORY<sup>1</sup>**

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*Abstract:* A new technique for rearing the Panamanian phlebotomine sand fly *Lutzomyia trapidoi* (Fairchild & Hertig) is described. Experimental data are provided on sugar- and blood-feeding, mating, oviposition and culture of immature stages. As many as 70% of females survived oviposition when maintained in styrofoam chambers and fed concentrated sucrose solutions.

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*Lutzomyia trapidoi* (Fairchild & Hertig) is widely distributed in Panama (Fairchild & Hertig 1952). It bites a wide variety of vertebrates, including man (Chaniotis et al. 1971, Tesh et al. 1972), and is known to be a vector of cutaneous leishmaniasis (Johnson et al. 1963), as well as a number of arboviruses (Tesh et al. 1974). Attempts to colonize this species have not been successful. Hertig & Johnson (1961) and Johnson & Hertig (1961) in a major effort to rear Panamanian sand flies succeeded

