

The Effect of Meteorological Factors on the Trap Catches of Culicoides Species

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Abstract : Culicoides midges are known to be vectors of disease to both man and animals. For providing information necessary for control methods to be applied to the best advantage, a New jersey light-trap was used. Twenty species were identified during this study and eight species were recorded from Chantilly for the first time, these include *C.grisescens*, *C.nubeculosus*, *C.cubitalis*, *C.achrayi*, *C.circumscriptus*, *C.stigma*, *C.reconditus*, and *C.parroti*. The environmental factors, wind speed and temperature were found to have a marked effect on the activity of Culicoides midges. The temperature was found to be positively correlated and the wind speed negatively correlated with the light-trap catch. However, humidity could not be shown to have any effect on the catch.

Keywords : culicoides, meteorological factors, wind speed, disease

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