

14th May, 1964.

H.E. Paterson Esq.,
University College of Rhodesia
and Nyasaland,
Zoology Department,
Private Bag 167 H,
Salisbury,
S. Rhodesia.

Dear Mr. Paterson,

As an outcome of the meeting of a Scientific Group on Vector Genetics held at Geneva in August last year it has been proposed by WHO to produce a monograph on Vector Genetics. I have been asked to organize a chapter on speciation and evolution in Anopheles gambiae and I was wondering if you would care to join me in this venture. I am also asking for contributions from Coluzzi (morphology), Coz (evidence of hybridization in the field) and Mason (cytogenetics). It seems to me to be a golden opportunity for combining our various versions of the gambiae situation.

As we have been working so much on the same lines it is going to be somewhat difficult to decide between the two of us who should do what. What I would suggest is that you send me any information, not already published, which you would like included in addition to what you have already published (copies of which I have). Perhaps this will amount to little more than the paper I understand you are giving at Rome in September? I am giving a short paper at the Entomology Congress here in London in July and will send you a copy of this. There will be little, if anything, additional to what I have already published. Incidentally, for this talk I have been making distribution maps and enclose a list of the records used. It includes both your records and mine. Perhaps you can add to it by now.

I also have photographs of normal and abnormal testes but would welcome any illustrations of different kinds of sterility.

I think at some stage we will have to come to some agreement on general conclusions as to the status of the various forms. Will you agree to a conclusion on the following lines:-

"On present evidence A. melas, A. merus and form C are probably species and A and B are possibly species, but more information on the extent or absence of hybridization in the field is required and more cytogenetic investigation is necessary before the precise status can be given. The naming of A, B and C should be left until such time as morphological recognition can be made".

I hope you will be able to co-operate. We have until October to complete the chapter. What I would aim to do would be to send you a draft copy for your comments and alterations before sending the finished article to Geneva.

Yours sincerely,

G. Davidson
Reader in Entomology as
Applied to Malaria