Mather, Wharton B. University of Queensland, Australia. The metaphase chromosomes of *D. rubida*.

In DIS 34, E. B. Lewis and Linda Smith Riles described and illustrated a technique, modified from mammalian chromosome methods, for preparing *D. melanogaster* metaphase plates from the larval brain. The great advantage of this technique is that preparations with many metaphase plates are obtained and the position of the centromere in each chromosome is pinpointed because the sister chromatids tend to separate. Thus, V chromosomes appear as X-shaped bodies and rod chromosomes as V-shaped bodies. With this technique metaphase plates have been obtained which clearly show that the chromosome number of the tropical Australasian species *D. rubida* of the immigrants group consists of 1 pair of V's, 2 pairs of rods and 1 pair of dots. In the photograph only one of the dots is split into two chromatids.

Barker, J. S. F. University of Sydney, Australia. A new parasite of laboratory *Drosophila*.

In April, 1963, some small Hymenoptera were observed in our laboratory. The numbers rapidly increased, and they were then found to be present in a number of population cages. Examination of empty pupal cases from these cages showed a proportion to have a small circular hole in the operculum, indicating that they had been parasitized. Parasitized pupae were found in cages containing *D. melanogaster*, *D. simulans*, *D. pseudoobscura*, and *D. nebulosa*. In an attempt to control the infestation, adult *Drosophila* of stock populations were transferred to clean population cages. While removing the media jars during cleaning of the old cages, individual Hymenoptera females were observed apparently ovipositing in newly formed pupae. Three such pupae were taken after the female moved away, and were placed individually in small vials at 25°C, 65-70% relative humidity. 29 days later, one adult Hymenoptera emerged from each of two of these pupae. There was no emergence from the third.

G. E. J. Nixon, Commonwealth Institute of Entomology, London, kindly identified the parasites as Hymenoptera - Proctoterupoidea - *Spilomicrus* spp. Species of this genus have not, I believe, previously been recorded as parasites of *Drosophila*. Adult *Spilomicrus* showed strong positive phototaxis, and the infestation was readily controlled by the use of light traps. It is assumed that the parasites entered the laboratory from a natural population, but there has been no re-infestation this year.


Eggs or pre-third instar larvae were analyzed for soluble protein by mean of electrophoresis and D.E.A.E. column-chromatography. A remarkable increase of Albumen fraction was found in the tumor strain (tu st). This fraction from tumor individual, comparing to a control (Oregon R), has a unique part eluted by NaCl 0.1M. Further, a remarkable decrease of a fraction which has a maximum adsorption at 260 μ was clarified in the alkalien-soluble fraction of PH 4.5 precipitates from the Albumen fraction above mentioned which showed a qualitative difference by Tiselius-electrophoresis.