

vials, inoculated in the usual manner with yeast; but larvae do not develop after hatching; and mold growth is inhibited. These vials are also very useful for holding individuals to be mated at some future time. Before transferring to fresh food, the flies are given a bath in a watch-glass of 70% alcohol for 2 to 3 minutes; then dried on filter-paper. Flies will stand a considerable immersion in alcohol with no permanent ill effects. They may be handled readily with brush and forceps. The alcohol bath treatment is also effective in freeing flies from mites. Larvae are especially easily cleaned in this way, the mites coming off at once; whereupon the larvae may be touched on filter-paper, and transferred at once to the food, using a long-handled needle, to which they gently adhere.

Schott, R. Mites and molds.

When mites appeared in our cultures last summer all shelves and incubators were washed with phenol solution, pupae were isolated and brushed free of mites. Then rapid transfer of cultures followed for several generations. All old bottles were immediately soaked in phenol solution or boiled.

To prevent mold, cover surface of media with 10% alcohol, drain off and seed with yeast.

Parker, D.R. Moldex-A as a mold inhibitor.

Tests were run recently to find a substance to inhibit the growth of

mold. The compounds tried out were Moldex-A, Nipagin-M, and Nipagin-T. These were added to our regular banana food in the ratio of .15 grams of anti-mold substance to 100 c.c. of food. Twenty vials were made of each of the above compounds, as well as twenty vials of plain food.

One half of the vials were inoculated heavily with mold, and the other half left uninoculated. One pair of flies was placed in each vial. Moldex-A was the most efficient in the prevention of mold. However, in the uninoculated series, the Moldex vials gave a slightly lower yield of flies than did the plain food. Egg counts were then run to see the possible effect that Moldex might have on hatchability. Out of approximately 3000 eggs, 98.7% reached the adult stage. This is about 7% higher than the usual hatch on plain food at a cost of about \$1.50 per pound. (Copied from DIS-4: 65).

Shipman, E.E. Mold Preventatives (Preservatives).

Th. Goldschmidt Corporation, 147 Waverly Place, New York City, New York,

has several different preservatives which would probably serve to prevent mold. Nipagin M has been reported in the literature but it is chemically pure and therefore more expensive than Nipagin T, the technical grade. Nipagin M is listed at \$1.00 per ounce and \$8.00 per pound. Nipagin T is listed at 60 cents per ounce and \$4.70 per pound. They have both been reported as being used in food cultures for *Drosophila* in 0.15%. In a communication from the company it is recommended that Nipagin T

be used in the amount of not over 0.1% since a higher amount may prevent fermentation. The preservatives should be boiled for three minutes in the water used in making the preparation.

I have no personal experience with these preservatives but plan to test Nipagin T and Nipakombin A, another of their preservatives, as soon as possible. (University of Illinois).

Amherst Laboratory  
use of Nipagin M.

Restriction of

The use of Nipagin M  
to stop the growth of  
molds in culture bot-

tles has been found, also, to delay the development of *D. melanogaster*. At 28° with 0.07 gm Nipagin to 60 cc. food, the duration of the egg-larval period, in a selected stock, was increased by more than three hours. In quantitative phenogenetic studies the use of Nipagin should, therefore, be restricted. It may be useful, however, for observing the effect of increased time of development on quantitative characters.