Van Valen, L. University of Chicago, Illinois. A method that might estimate age in Drosophila.

In a previous note (DIS 46:125) I reported failure in an attempt to estimate age in Drosophila by use of daily growth layers in the cuticle. Recently Schlein and Gratz (1972) have had success with this method for mosquitoes and three families of muscoid flies. Their methods differ from ours in perhaps relevant ways. Success with Drosophila could make its ecology amenable to standard ecological procedures. I now lack the relevant equipment but suggest that my previous failure not be taken as definitive.

Reference: Schlein, J. and N.G. Gratz 1972, Bull. World Health Org. 47:71-75.

(Continued from preceding page)

Table 1. Exceptional recombinant types recovered from heterozygous females.

| Heterozygous female | Exceptional recombinant types recovered | Number | Total offspring |
|---|---|---|---|
| $\dfrac{y^2 + \quad w^a \text{ spl ec}}{+ w^{crr} + \ + \ +}$ ** | $+ w^{crr} w^a$ spl ec | 4 | 52713 |
| | $y^2 + + +$ | 1 | |
| $\dfrac{+ + + \quad w^{crr}}{y\ z\ w^{Bwx} +}$ | $y\ z\ w^{Bwx}\ w^{crr}$ | 3 | 103586 |
| | $z\ w^{Bwx}\ w^{crr}$ | 1 | |
| | $+ + + +$ | 6 | |
| $\dfrac{+ + + \quad +^{crr}}{y\ z\ w^{bf} +}$ | $+ + + +$ | 2 | 170725 |
| $\dfrac{+\ Z\ w^{65a25} + \text{ spl} + sn^3}{y\ + + \quad w^a \text{ spl ec} +}$ | $y^2 +$ spl $sn^3$ | 1 | 14506 |
| $\dfrac{z + \quad w^{65a25} \text{ spl } sn^3}{+ w^{crr} + \qquad + +}$ | $z + + + +$ | 2 | 255341 |
| $\dfrac{y^2 + \ sp\text{-}w^4 \text{ spl} + sn^3}{y^2\ w^a \quad + \quad \text{spl ec} +}$ | $y^2 + +$ spl ec | 5 | 21550 |
| | $y^2\ w^a\ sp\text{-}w^4$ spl $sn^3$ | 4 | |

** Burke H. Judd personal communication

for his continued support and encouragement on this project.

References: Green, M.M. 1959c, Hered. 13:302-315; Judd, B.H. 1964, Genetics 49:253-265.