

Subject: Re: inquiry about feasibility of R culicivora  
Date: Mon, 14 Aug 2006 10:12:15 -0700  
From: Edward Platzer <edward.platzer@ucr.edu>  
To: James Northup <jimnorthup@prodigy.net>  
References: <44DE38BD.9050903@prodigy.net>

Jim: Currently, I am very fortunate to have Dr. Rafael Pacheco Perez from Oaxaca City, MX., visiting my laboratory. We have been working together for the past two years trying unsuccessfully to hybridize several species of Romanomermis. Dr. Perez has established a major production facility at his institute at Oaxaca City for three species of mermithid nematodes for mosquito control. He produces huge quantities of Romanomermis iyengari for the control of Anopheles pseudopunctipennis, a primary malaria vector in coastal villages along the Pacific coast of Oaxaca. In addition, he has established satellite production facilities in three other regions for control of Anopheles. He has developed a significant number of improvements in the rearing system that reduces the production costs and adapted the system to local conditions. Thus, where there is a will there is a way to utilize mermithids and other biocontrol organisms. Dr. Perez is a leader in this endeavor and would be willing to visit and share his expertise in this area. His English skills have been slowly improving in my lab for the past two years and he can present a good power point presentation on these matters. Currently, we are looking into an interaction with Coachella Valley MAVC District, which will start on Dr. Perez's return from the international parasitology meetings in Glasgow. Thanks for the note, Ed

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