


Although the fruits of several other annonaceous species were available to adult seed borers in the study areas, only *A. montana* became infested.

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DISTRIBUTION OF BOT LARVAE, *CEPHENEMYIA* SPP.  
(DIPTERA: OESTRIDAE) FROM WHITE-TAILED DEER  
(*ODOCOILEUS VIRGINIANUS*) IN FLORIDA

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Little is known about deer bot flies (*Cephenemyia* spp.) in the state of Florida. The first account of an adult fly from Florida has been published only recently and was based

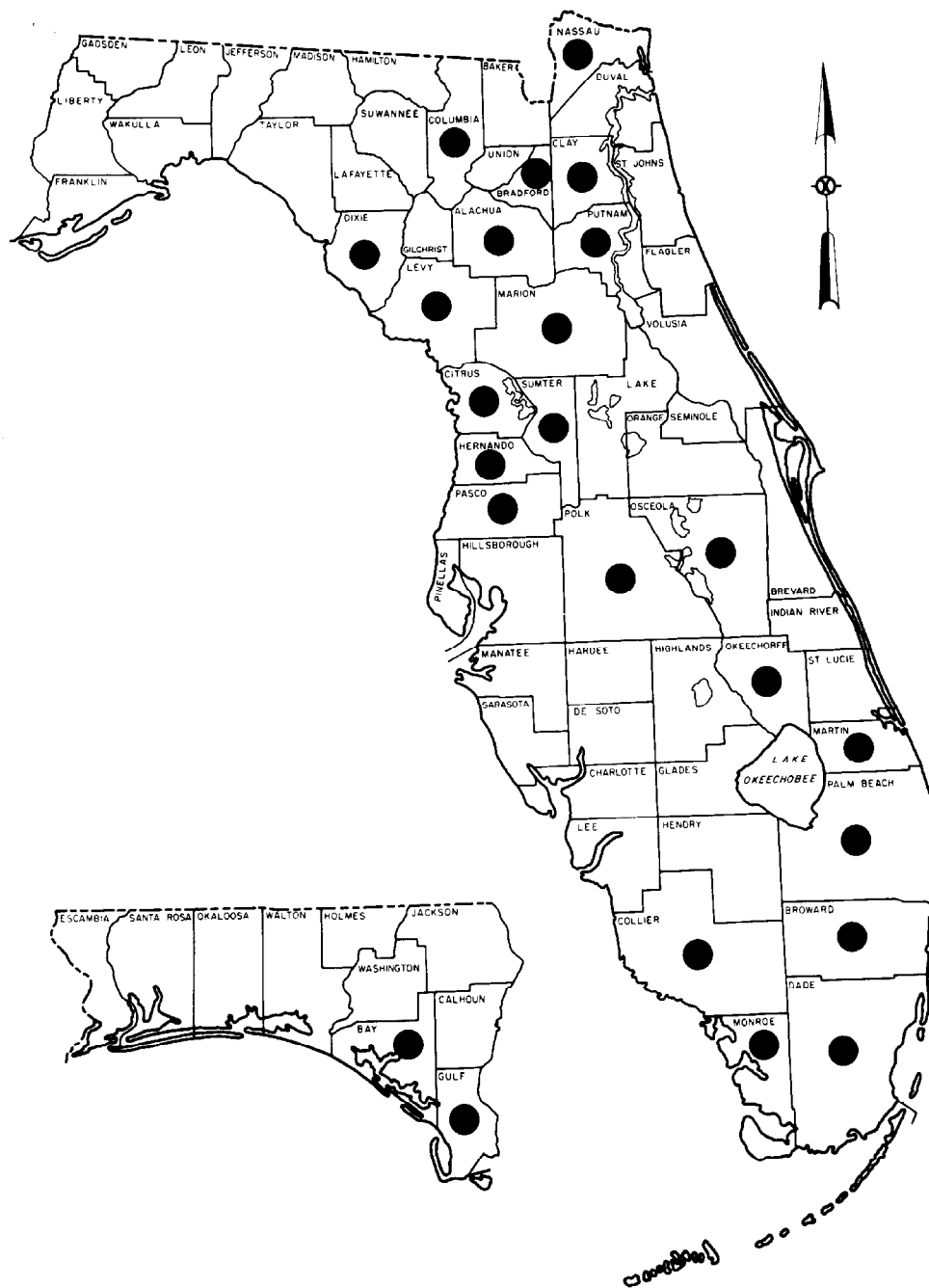


Fig. 1. Distribution of larvae of *Cephemyia* spp. in white-tailed deer from Florida. Solid circles represent counties in which infected deer were found.

on a free-flying female in Levy County collected by Dr. Richard H. Roberts (Cogley 1989). There are a few published records of larvae of *Cephemyia* spp. from white-tailed deer in Florida, but these deal only with three counties, i.e., Broward, Collier, and Levy (Nettles & Doster 1975, Unpub. data from the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study, Athens, Georgia). The wide separation of Levy County from Broward and Collier counties indicated that deer bots might occur in many more counties than

presently known. It was decided that an expanded study of the distribution of the larvae of *Cephenemyia* spp. be undertaken to develop a better understanding of this parasite in the state.

One hundred and ten taxidermists throughout the state were asked to submit bot larvae from nasal passages of white-tailed deer being processed as trophies after the hunting seasons of 1989-90 and 1990-91. Data were obtained also from necropsy records generated from 1970 to 1991 in the Department of Infectious Diseases, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Florida.

Twenty-four of Florida's 67 counties were found to have deer infected with *Cephenemyia* spp. larvae (Fig. 1). The distribution runs contiguously down the state from the northern border county (Columbia) to the southernmost county (Monroe). Samples were scarce from the Panhandle part of the state with only Bay and Gulf counties represented. From these data it is apparent that the deer bot fly probably is distributed widely throughout the state of Florida, wherever deer occur. The species involved have not been determined because of the confused taxonomic state of the genus *Cephenemyia*. Representative specimens of larvae have been deposited in the Florida State Collection of Arthropods, Division of Plant Industry, Florida Department of Agriculture, Gainesville, Florida.

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