
A METHOD OF OBTAINING BLOOD FROM THE CUBAN BURROWING COCKROACH, *BYRSOTRIA FUMIGATA* (GUERIN). Sternberg and Corrigan (1959) described a centrifuge technique for obtaining roach blood. Adult *Byrsotria fumigata* are too large, however, for the average size centrifuge tubes. The following method has been found to give very satisfactory and reliable results and may be used where centrifuging apparatus is not available.

Byrsotria is placed in some convenient container and vigorously exercised by causing the animal to run continuously. During this process the roach should frequently be flipped over onto its back. After following this procedure for one or two minutes, the roach is picked up in such a way that the thumb is placed against the ventral surface of the insect's abdomen and the forefinger against the dorsal abdominal surface. Transverse cuts are made completely through the coxae and antennae. Peristaltic pressure is then applied to the insect's body by means of the thumb and forefinger. Blood should flow copiously from the severed parts. It is usually not necessary to plug mouthparts or anus with paraffin. The entire procedure can be carried out in a few minutes without using additional equipment.—JOHN M. JOSEPH, *Department of Biology, Findlay College, Findlay, Ohio.*

LITERATURE CITED

- Sternberg, J. G., and J. J. Corrigan. 1959. Rapid collection of insect blood. *J. Econ. Ent.* 52(3): 538-539.