

Mosquito studies - 2001
Thayer farm

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Preliminary survey of mosquito populations at likely sites of development at the newly acquired Thayer Farm was confined to a series of light trap collections. The property encloses two series of ponds which could support immature mosquitoes (Figure 1). One series of several step-wise small ponds of approximately equal area lie east to west down a gradual slope northwest of Getman Main Barn. A second series lies down a steeper south to north gradient below a considerably larger pond. This series lies north of that previously described and northwest of the Interpretative Center.

Two CDC miniature light traps of an older type and two of a newer design were used during the study. Apparent variation in effectiveness of the two designs was obvious and will require further evaluation.

Traps were set in the series of ponds by the Getman Main Barn on the following dates: June 12; July 10,18,31; Aug 29. Traps were set in the lower series on July 10,18; August 8.

Five mosquitoes were collected during the summer of 2001. Table 1 indicates location and dates of collection

Table 1. Mosquitoes collected by light traps at the Thayer Farm (numbers in parentheses indicate multiple specimens collected).

Species	Date	Location
<i>Anopheles punctipennis</i> (Say)	June 11	Getman Barn Ponds
<i>Culex restuans</i> (Theobald)	June 12	Getman Barn Ponds
<i>Coquillettidia perturbans</i> (Walker)	July 18 (2)	Big Pond
	July 18	Getman Barn Ponds

Only *Coquillettidia perturbans* (Walker) is confined to permanent standing water. Immatures of the other two species are known to develop in a variety of aquatic sites, but are commonly found in permanent water. The ponds near the Getman barn are relatively isolated, being surrounded largely by tilled acreage. This suggests that they are the source of development of mosquitoes collected there. The two specimens of *Cq. Perturbans* (Walker) collected near the big ponds, being dependent on permanent water, very likely developed in the big pond or on the smaller ones associated with it.

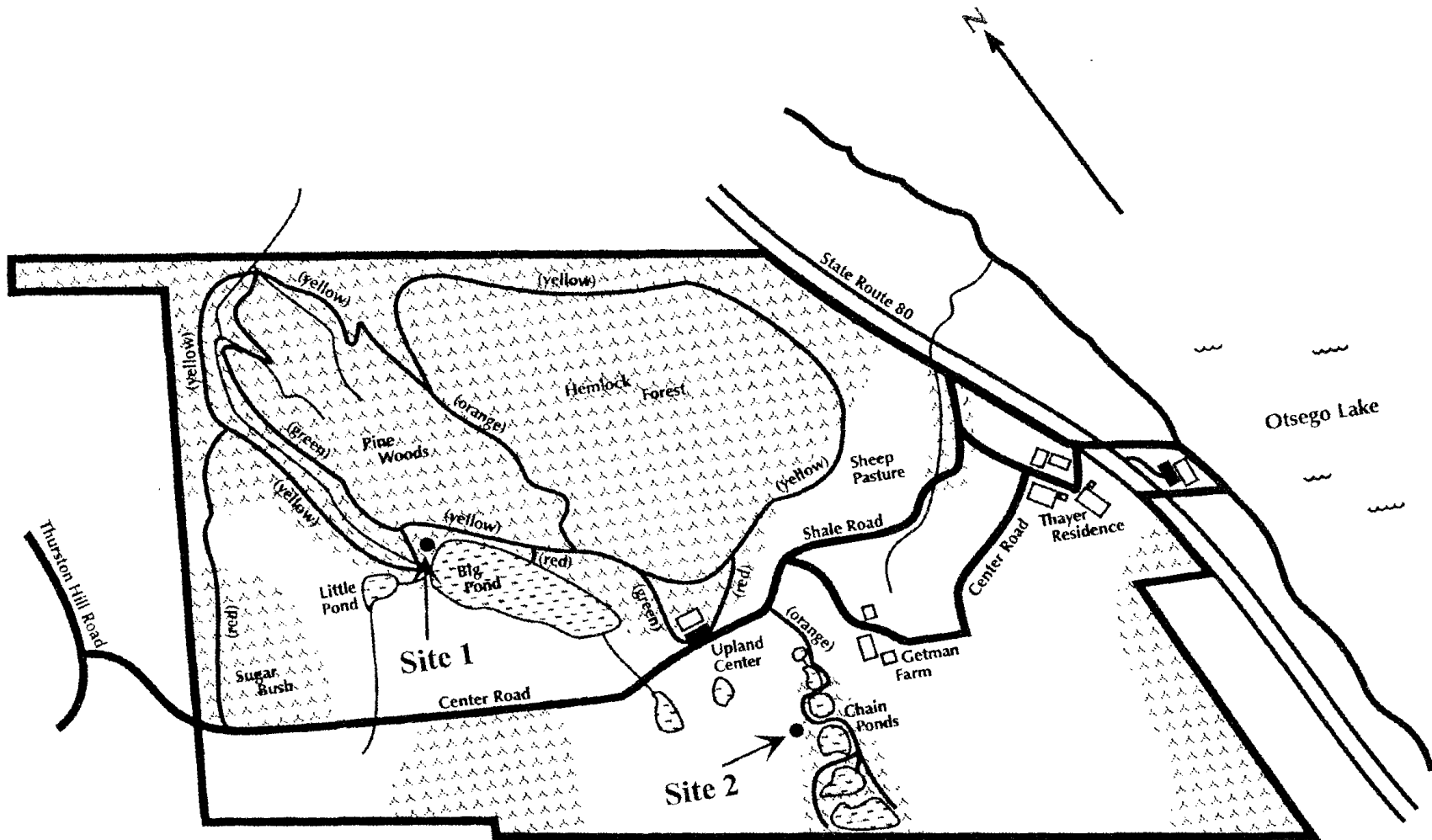


Figure 1. The Thayer farm, Springfield, NY, showing study areas.