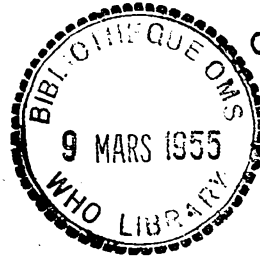


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The Chief of the Malaria Section
has the honour to communicate hereunder
the following note:

CRITERIA FOR DISCONTINUANCE OF RESIDUAL HOUSE-SPRAYING
FOR MALARIA CONTROL IN THAILAND

by

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and

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The criteria for discontinuing residual house-spraying in areas of malaria control in Thailand are as follows:

- (1) Anopheles minimus, the principal malaria carrier must be reduced to none.
- (2) The infant parasite rate (percentage of infants with malaria parasites shown by blood examination) must be reduced to none.
- (3) The parasite rate in others than infants must be low and interpretable as due to relapsed or introduced cases, rather than local transmission.
- (4) The spleen rate (percentage of children aged 2-9 years with enlarged spleens) must be reduced to less than 10%.
- (5) The area must be surrounded by controlled areas or otherwise protected from any significant hazard of introduction of malaria or its principal vector.

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It is emphasized that the above criteria apply only to the discontinuing of house-spraying; it is expected that a permanent programme of protective surveillance, including technical surveys and mobile control units, will continue operation indefinitely in all controlled areas. (See Projection in Appendix to WHO/Mal/103.15.)

Surveys carried on each year throughout controlled areas and comparable uncontrolled areas have shown that three successive years of residual house-spraying operations are sufficient to meet the requirements of criteria numbers (1) to (4) above in practically all sprayed areas. Following the 1952 house-spraying campaign two districts in Chiangmai Province were largely discontinued from further house-spraying after three years of such work; and following the 1953 campaign, sixteen districts in Chiangmai, Lamphoon, Chiangrai and Lampang Provinces in Northern Thailand were placed wholly or partially under protective surveillance. Extensive surveys have shown no evidence of renewed malaria transmission, and these areas, of nearly 500,000 population, still fulfil the requirements as stated above for discontinuance of house-spraying. (See Table I in Appendix to WHO/Mal/103.15.)

In 1955 twenty-five additional districts (12 Northern, 4 North-eastern, 6 Central and 3 Southern), totalling approximately 1,000,000 population, will be considered for omission from the 1955 house-spraying campaign. It is emphasized that all of these areas must meet the full requirements of the criteria given above, if they are to be placed under protective surveillance. Special attention is being given to all such areas, as well as areas previously discontinued, during the survey period following the 1954 house-spraying campaign. It should be noted that house-spraying was continued in three Central districts in 1954, even after three or four years of control operations, due to special problems largely involving new agricultural settlements which made it unsafe to rely on protective surveillance only. Such special problems are unusual and a small proportion in the over-all programme.