



HEALTH POLICIES IN THE SOUTHWEST OF EXTREMADURA (SPAIN) - YELLOW FEVER IN XIX CENTURY

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Abstract

Yellow fever appeared during the eighteenth century and the early nineteenth century in the Iberian Peninsula, reaching Lisbon in 1728, Cádiz in 1730, 1900, 1804, 1810 and 1819, and thereafter in Malaga, Barcelona and Pasajes. The disease manifests itself through culicidae which transmit the virus (mosquitos of the Aedes or Haemagogus species) and which only develop in favourable environmental conditions.

What happened in the Iberian Peninsula in the context of yellow fever? Why did the disease spread among populations along the coast and not in the interior?

In the present paper, we discuss the sanitary measures taken during the 1800s to halt the propagation of yellow fever, by different *pedanias* (i.e. infra-municipal territorial entities in Spain) in the Southwest of Extremadura by using documents from historical-municipal and parochial archives pertaining to these *pedanias*.