



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Health**

Adult Female Mosquito Identification Key:

ARID REGION

ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN ARID REGIONS OF WA

1

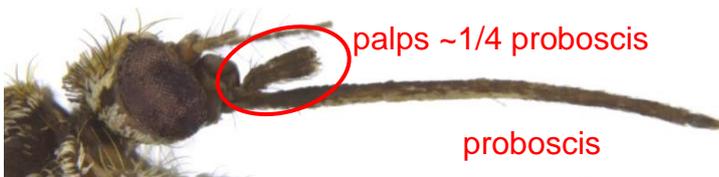
Palps (sensory organs either side of the proboscis) as long as proboscis (elongated mouthpart used to penetrate skin and take a blood meal), wings with distinct patches of pale scales
..... *Anopheles annulipes*



spotted wings



Palps short or no more than 2/3 length of proboscis 2



2

Palps 1/2 – 3/5 length of proboscis, large mottled species 10-12mm long .. ***Aedes alternans***



Palps less than 1/4 length of proboscis 3

3

Proboscis with narrow but distinct white band at midpoint, back of upper body with distinct silvery lyre shaped pattern, long white stripes on upper legs, lower legs banded

..... *Aedes notoscriptus**



Lyre is a musical instrument



Striped upper legs (femur and tibia)

Banded lower legs (tarsi)

Proboscis, body and legs otherwise 4

**Ae. aegypti* and *Ae. albopictus* appear similar to *Ae. notoscriptus*. Although *Ae. aegypti* has a similar lyre pattern to *Ae. notoscriptus* it does not have a white band on the proboscis. *Ae. albopictus* has a dark proboscis and a distinct white median stripe on the scutum. These are exotic species of major concern as they are known vectors of many viruses including Dengue, Zika and Yellow Fever viruses. If these species are suspected the sample must be forwarded to Medical Entomology for confirmation.

4

Tip of lower body rounded 5



Tip of lower body pointed (floodwater or tidal species) 6



5

Proboscis pale scaled underneath (except dark at tip), curved bands across the back of the lower body with no median point; usually only found breeding in urban areas

..... *Culex quinquefasciatus*



curved bands

Proboscis with distinct central white band ~0.3 length, tergal bands with median points

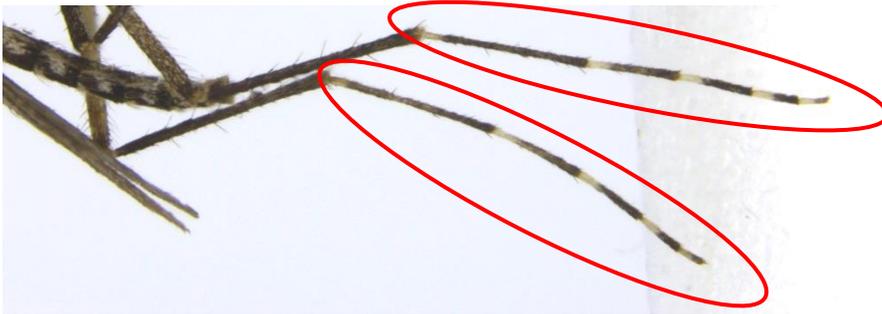
..... *Culex annulirostris*



pointed bands

6

Lower hind legs (hind tarsi) with broad white bands (at least 1/8th the length of segment) .. 7



broad white bands on hind tarsi

Lower hind legs unbanded or with narrow or indistinct bands (< 1/8th of segment)..... 8



hind tarsi unbanded



hind tarsi with narrow white bands

7

Long triangular scales on all wing veins extensively mottled, bands on back of lower body with median points *Aedes eidsvoldensis*



Long broad triangular wing scales, very mottled



pointed bands

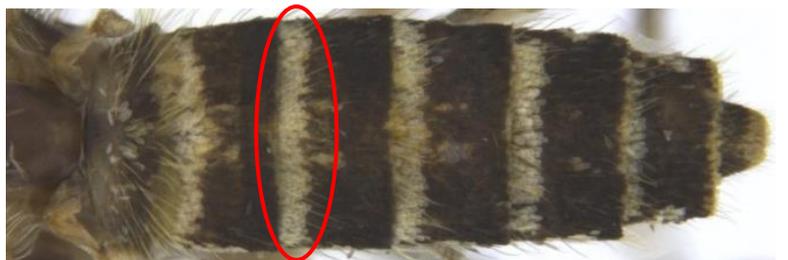
Scales on wing veins less mottled and broad, straight bands on back of lower body, distinctive curved patches on side of body, usually a coastal species *Aedes vigilax*



curved lateral patch



Normal shape and size wing scales, some



Straight band on tergite

8

Lower hind leg (hind tarsi) segments with narrow white bands, scales on wing extensively mottled *Aedes Marks sp. No.71*



Normal shape wing scales, very mottled



hind tarsi with narrow white bands

Lower hind leg segments unbanded 9

9

Head scales round and flat, upper two leg segments (femur and tibia) unmottled

..... *Aedes bancroftianus*



Hind upper legs not mottled



Head scales round and flat

Head scales narrow and curved or upright and forked, upper two hind leg segments mottled with pale scales **10**



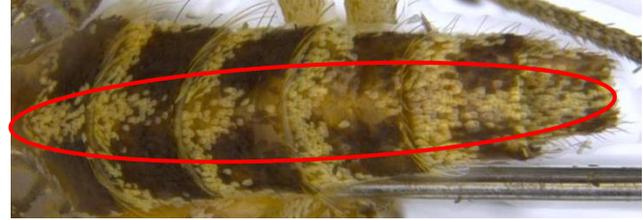
Hind upper legs mottled



Head scales narrow

10

Large dark coloured species, median points and side patches of the bands across back of lower body extend the length of segment ***Aedes sapiens***



Straight band on tergite with median point extending to next segment

Moderate sized brown to reddish coloured species, median points and side patches of the bands across the lower body usually less than the length of segment ***Aedes sagax*** and ***Aedes Marks sp. No.85***



Straight band on tergite with median point NOT extending past mid segment

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