



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

# Adult Female Mosquito Identification Key:

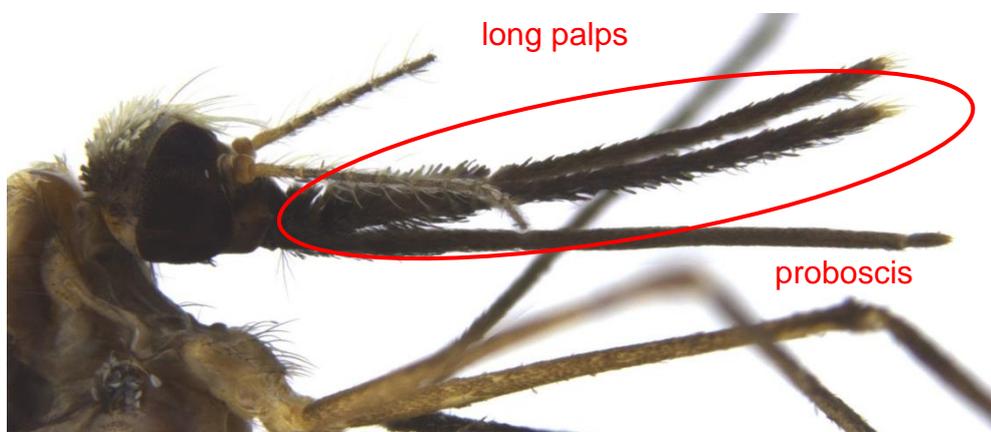
## PILBARA REGION

# ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN THE PILBARA REGION OF WA

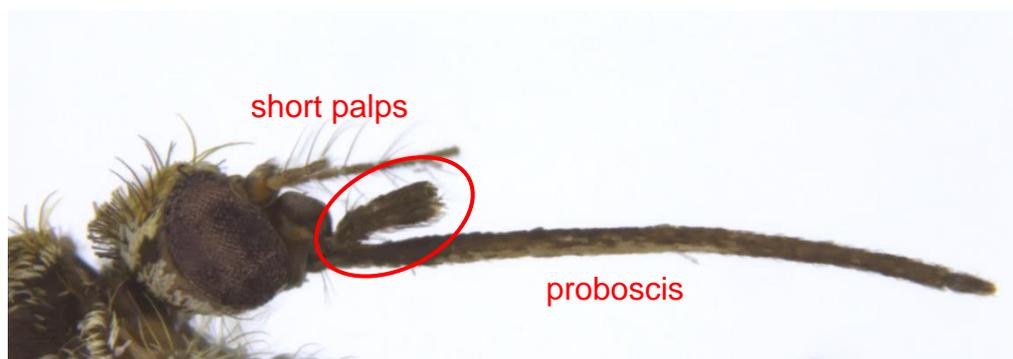
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## 1

Palps (sensory organs either side of the proboscis) as long as proboscis (elongated mouthpart used to penetrate skin and take a blood meal) ..... 2



Palps short or not more than 2/3 the length of proboscis ..... 3



# 2

Back of lower body (abdomen) with dense flat yellowish scales, proboscis entirely dark scaled, palp dark scaled with narrow pale bands on all segments

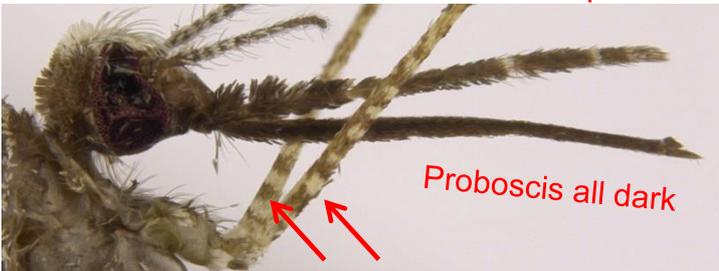
..... *Anopheles amictus*

scales



Dense flat yellow scales on back of abdomen

Palp mostly dark with small white patches



These are legs



Back of lower body with hairs and largely bare of scales, proboscis can be all dark or pale apical half (end half), palp more dark in first half and more pale in end half

..... *Anopheles annulipes*

hairs



Few if any scales but lots of hairs on back of abdomen

First half palp mostly dark

End half palp mostly pale



End half of proboscis can be all pale (as shown) or all dark

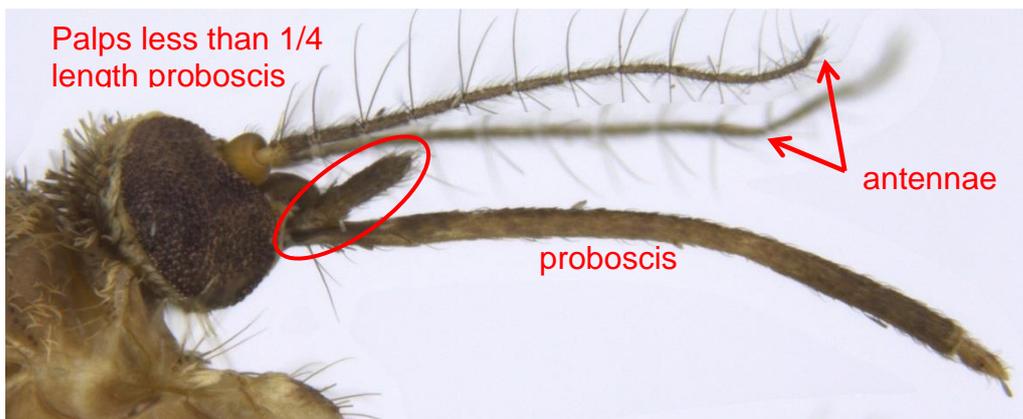


# 3

Palps  $\frac{1}{2}$  –  $\frac{3}{5}$  length of proboscis, large mottled species 10-12mm long. *Aedes alternans*



Palps less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  length of proboscis ..... 4



# 4

Abdomen rounded or blunt ..... 5



Abdomen pointed ..... 9

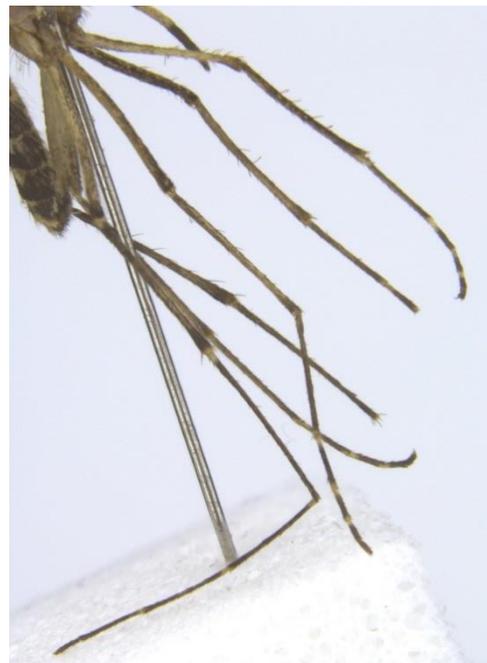


# 5

Hind tarsi black with broad white basal bands, abdomen blunt ended ..... 6



Hind tarsi all dark or with narrow pale basal bands on hind tarsi, abdomen rounded ..... 7



# 6

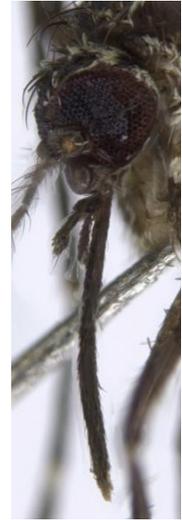
Proboscis with narrow but distinct white band, back of upper body with distinct silvery lyre shaped pattern, stripes along upper and lower legs ..... ***Aedes notoscriptus***\*



Lyre is a musical instrument



Proboscis dark, small “hunched” species ..... ***Aedes tremulus***\*\*



\* *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.

\*\* Other rarer *Aedes* subgenus *Macleaya* could key out here (see Liehne’s Atlas of Mosquitoes of Western Australia; page 119).

# 7

Proboscis and tarsi all dark, usually only found breeding in urban areas

..... *Culex quinquefasciatus*



Proboscis dark with white median band, some narrow pale basal bands on tarsi

..... 8



# 8

Tergites dark with pale basal bands with median points ..... ***Culex annulirostris***

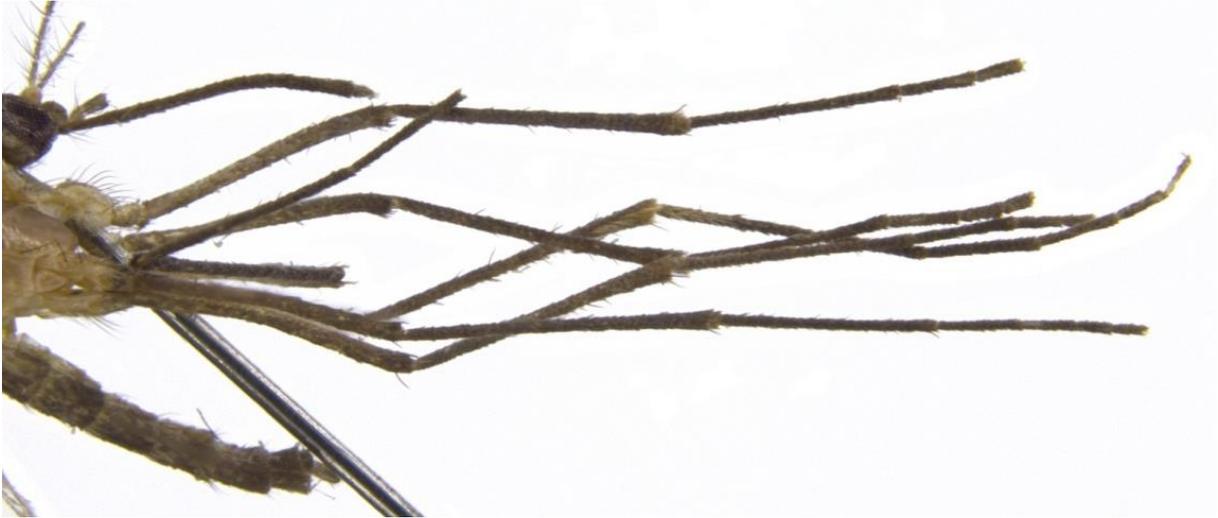


Tergites with straight pale basal bands, coastal species ..... ***Culex sitiens***



# 9

Hind tarsal segments all dark ..... 10



Hind tarsal segments dark with white basal bands ..... 12



# 10

Back of lower body (tergites) all dark sometimes with bluish reflections, found in coastal mangrove areas ..... ***Aedes daliensis***



Tergites dark with pale basal bands ..... 11



# 11

Upper two segments of hind legs (femur and tibia) extensively mottled, head scales narrow and curved and many forked upright ..... ***Aedes Marks sp. No.85*** and ***Aedes sagax***

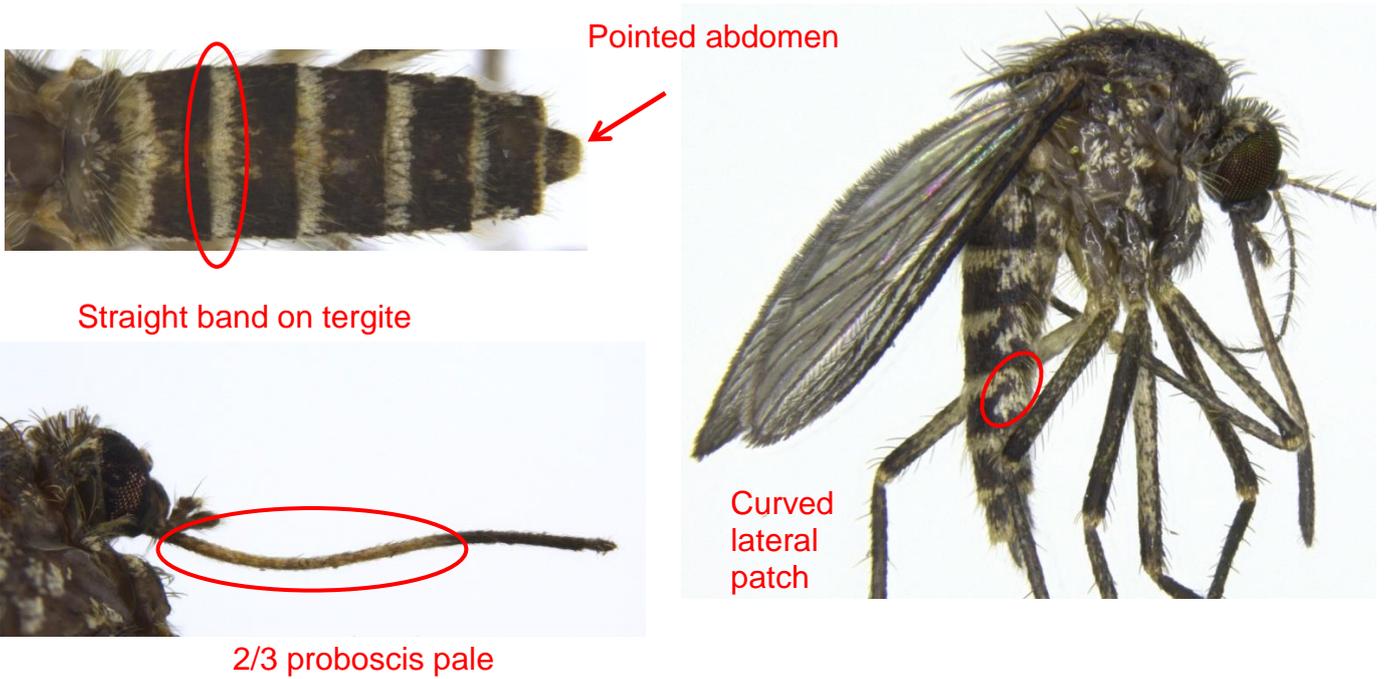


Hind femur dark dorsally and pale ventrally, tibia all dark, head scales round and flat with few upright scales ..... ***Aedes bancroftianus***

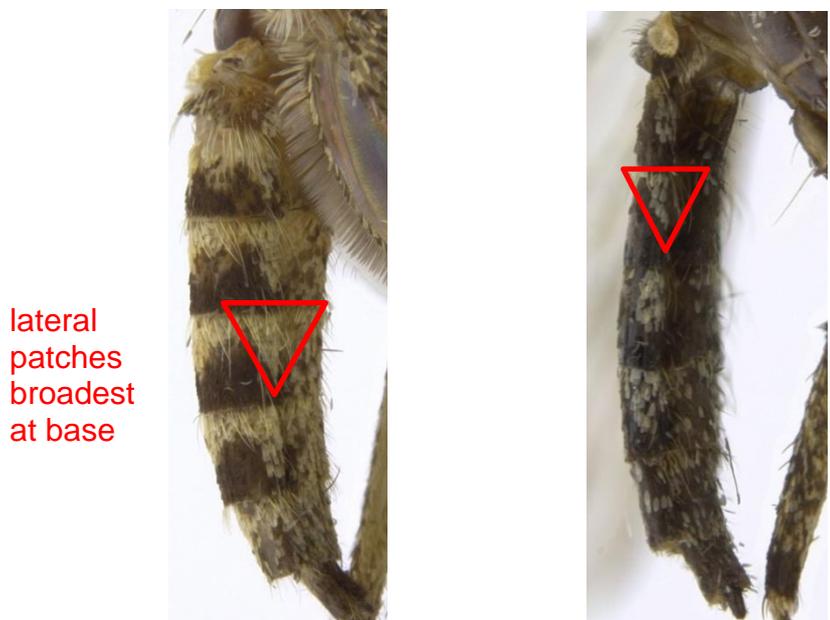


# 12

Lateral patches on tergites curved and narrower at base than midline, proboscis mottled to pale on basal 2/3 and dark at tip, tergal bands straight, coastal species  
..... *Aedes vigilax*



Lateral patches on tergites broadest at base ..... 13



# 13

Wings extensively mottled with numerous broad white scales on all veins (some 3-4 x as long as broad) and pale basal bands on tergites with large median triangle

..... *Aedes eidsvoldensis*



Wing scales with some mottling but normal shape and size ..... 14



# 14

On upper body, scutal scaling mostly dark, scutal integument dark brown to black  
..... ***Aedes normanensis***



Scutal scaling mostly gold or creamy, scutal integument light red to dark brown  
..... ***Aedes pseudonormanensis***



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