



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

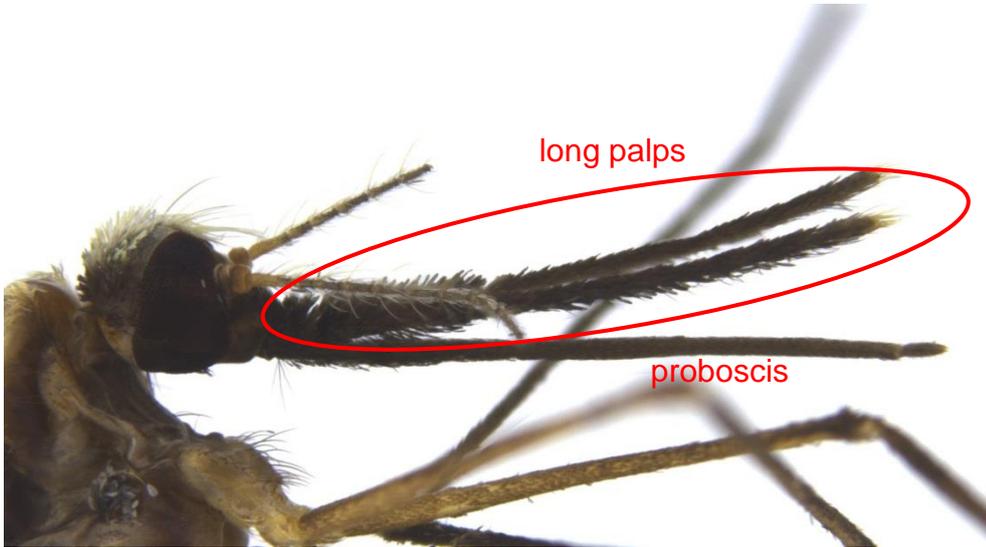
Adult Female Mosquito Identification Key:

SOUTH WEST REGION

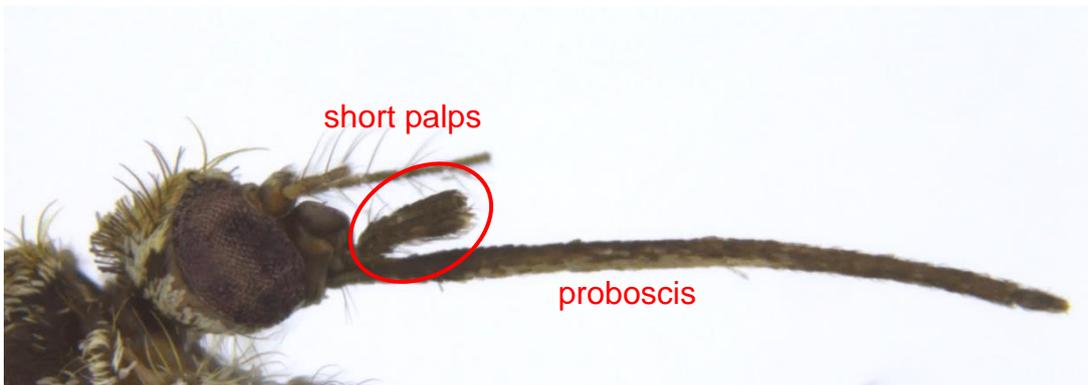
ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

1

1A Palps (sensory organs either side of the proboscis) as long as proboscis (elongated mouthpart used to penetrate skin and take a blood meal) 2



1B Palps less than ¼ length of proboscis 3



ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

2

2A Wings dark scaled along the top edge (costa) *Anopheles atratipes*



2B Wings with at least four distinct patches of pale scales along the top edge *Anopheles annulipes*

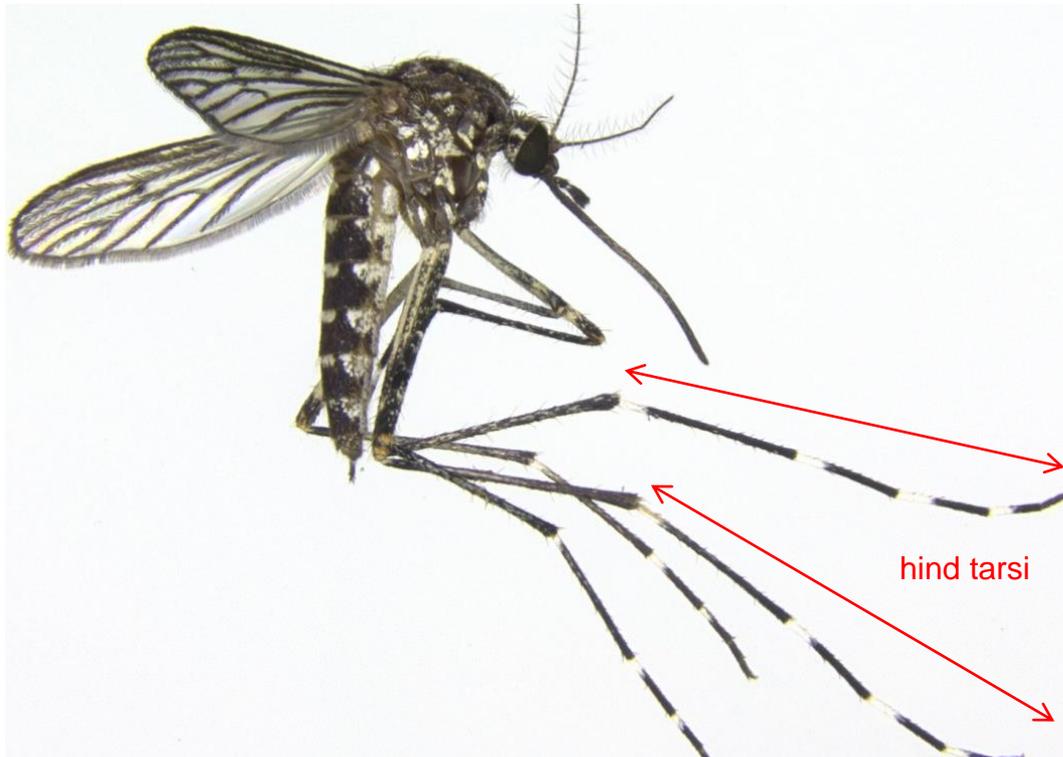


ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

3

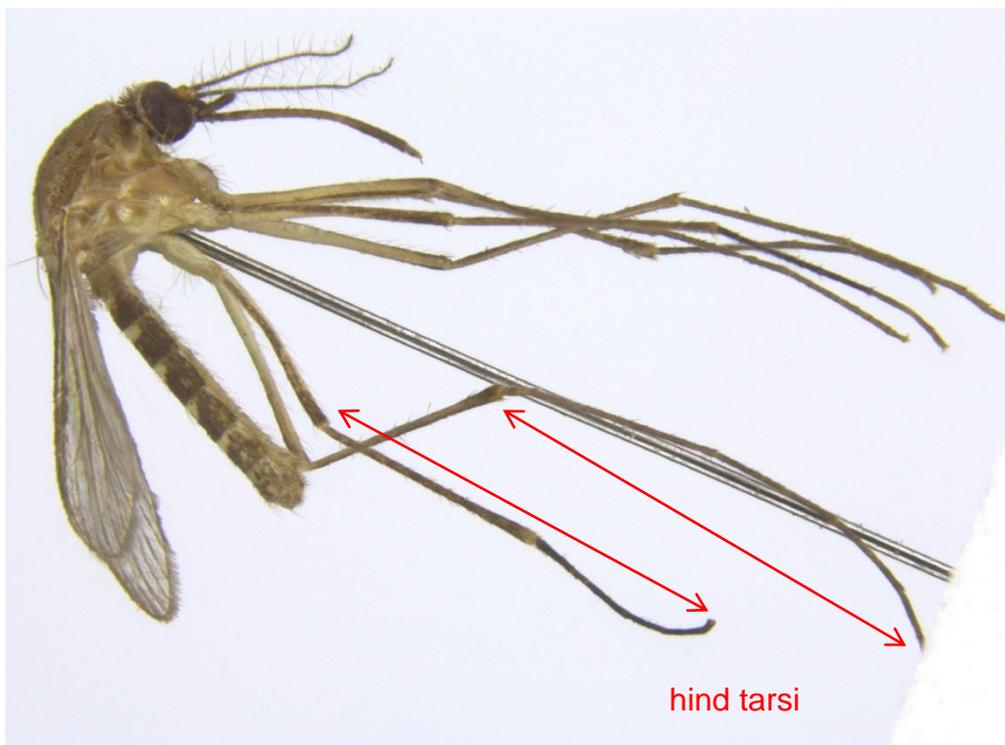
3A Hind tarsi with broad white bands (at least 1/8th the length of each segment)

4



3B Hind tarsi unbanded or with narrow or indistinct bands (< 1/8th length of each segment)

7



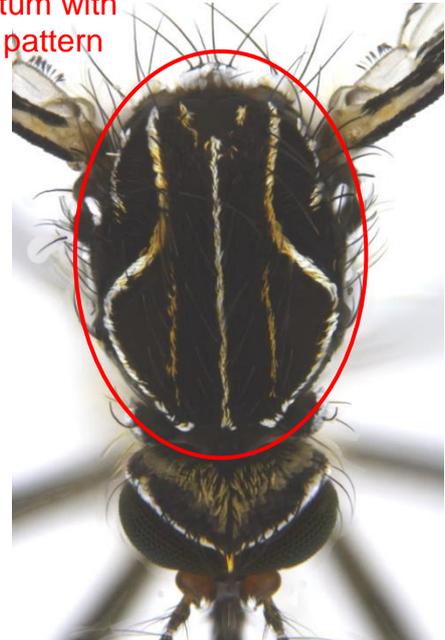
ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

4

4A Proboscis with narrow but distinct white band at midpoint, scutum with distinct silvery lyre shaped pattern, long white stripes on femur and tibia ***Aedes notoscriptus****



Scutum with lyre pattern



white band at mid-point proboscis



Lyre is a musical instrument shaped like this



Long striped upper legs (femur and tibia)

Banded lower legs (tarsi)

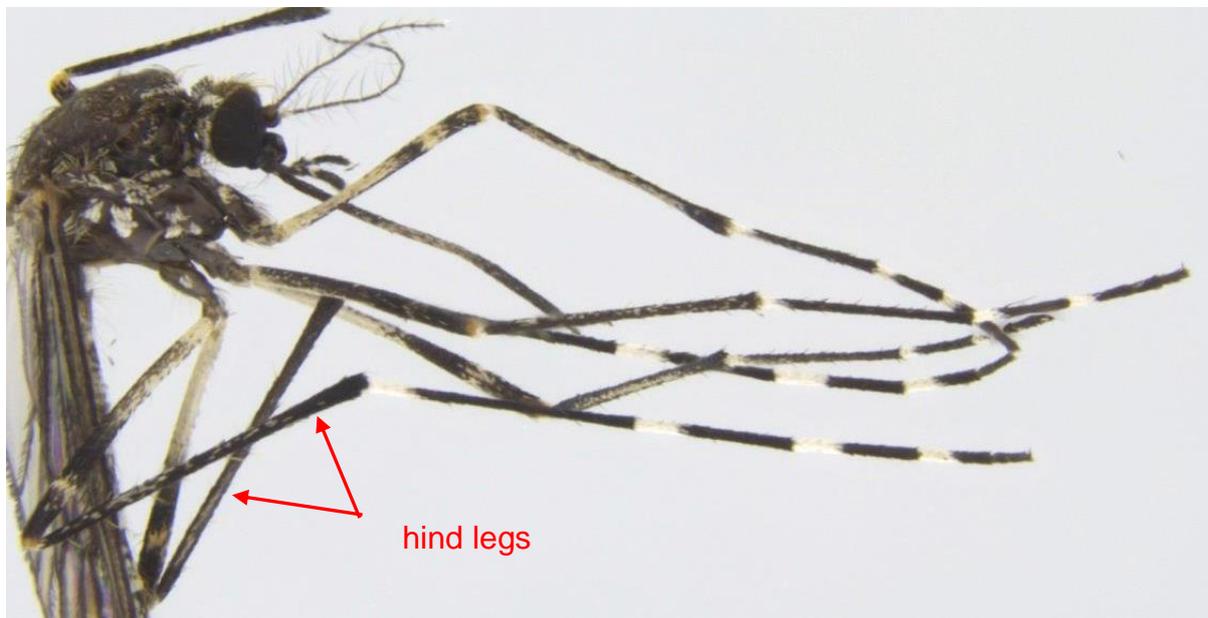
4B Proboscis unbanded, body and legs otherwise 5

**Ae. mallochi*, *Ae. aegypti* and *Ae. albopictus* appear similar to *Ae. notoscriptus*. *Ae. mallochi* and *Ae. aegypti* have a similar lyre pattern to *Ae. notoscriptus* but do not have a white band on the proboscis. *Ae. albopictus* has a dark proboscis and a distinct white median stripe on the scutum. *Ae. aegypti* and *Ae. albopictus* 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, Department of Health for confirmation.

ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

5

5A Femora with distinctive white band (sub apical) and ochre knee spots *Aedes alboannulatus*

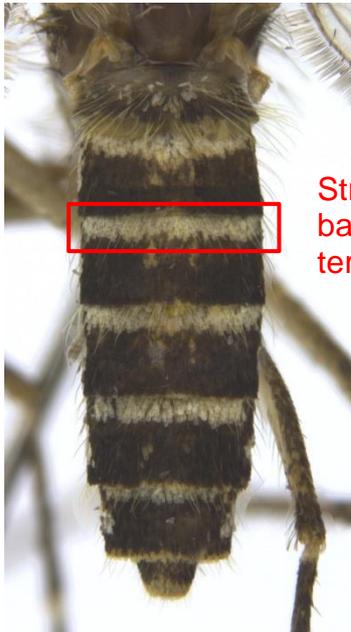


5B Hind legs otherwise 6

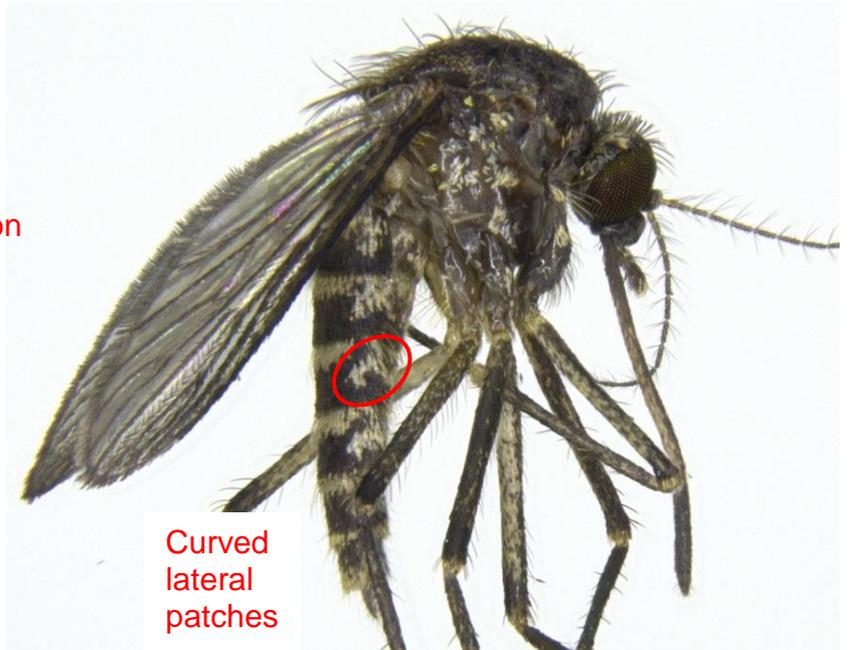
ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

6

6A Straight bands across tergites with distinctive curved lateral patches; dark mosquito present during summer months *Aedes vigilax*



Straight bands on tergite

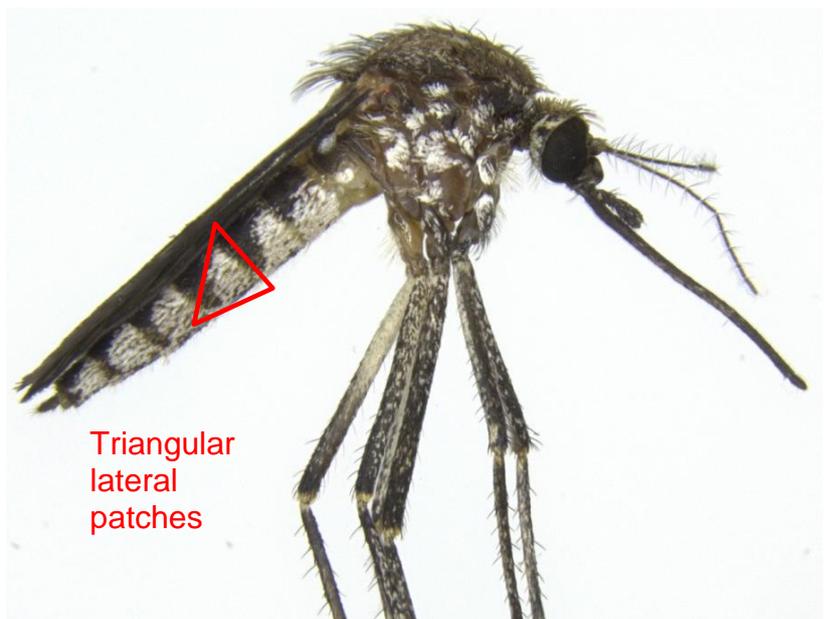


Curved lateral patches

6B Pointed bands on tergites with triangular lateral patches *Aedes camptorhynchus*



Pointed band on tergite



Triangular lateral patches

ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

7

7A Proboscis with distinct white band at mid-point, bands across tergites with distinct triangular mid-point *Culex annulirostris*



7B Proboscis unbanded 8

ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

8

8A Abdomen dark on back and pale underneath, coarse bristles on scutum, drab species without any distinct markings and generally smaller than most other species ***Culiseta atra***



8B Abdomen has some pale scaling on tergites **9**

ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

9

9A Tergites dark with small lateral patches of pale scales 10



Basal white patch
(on edge of tergite
closest to head)



Apical white patch
(on edge of tergite
closest to end of
abdomen)

9B Abdomen with other markings 11



ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

10

10A Tergites unbanded, with small white basal lateral patches, scutum with four distinct lines of gold or bronze scales *Coquillettidia sp. nr. linealis*



Small basolateral pale patches



Scutum with four gold lines of scales



10B Tergites dark with large white apical triangular lateral patches, dense white scales on the side of thorax (pleura) *Tripteroides atripes*



Triangular apical lateral patch



Dense white scaling on pleura

ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

11

11A Tip of abdomen rounded 12



11B Tip of abdomen pointed 15



ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

12

12A Bands across tergites straight and extending to sides 13



12B Bands across tergites do not extend to side, may be curved at edges 14

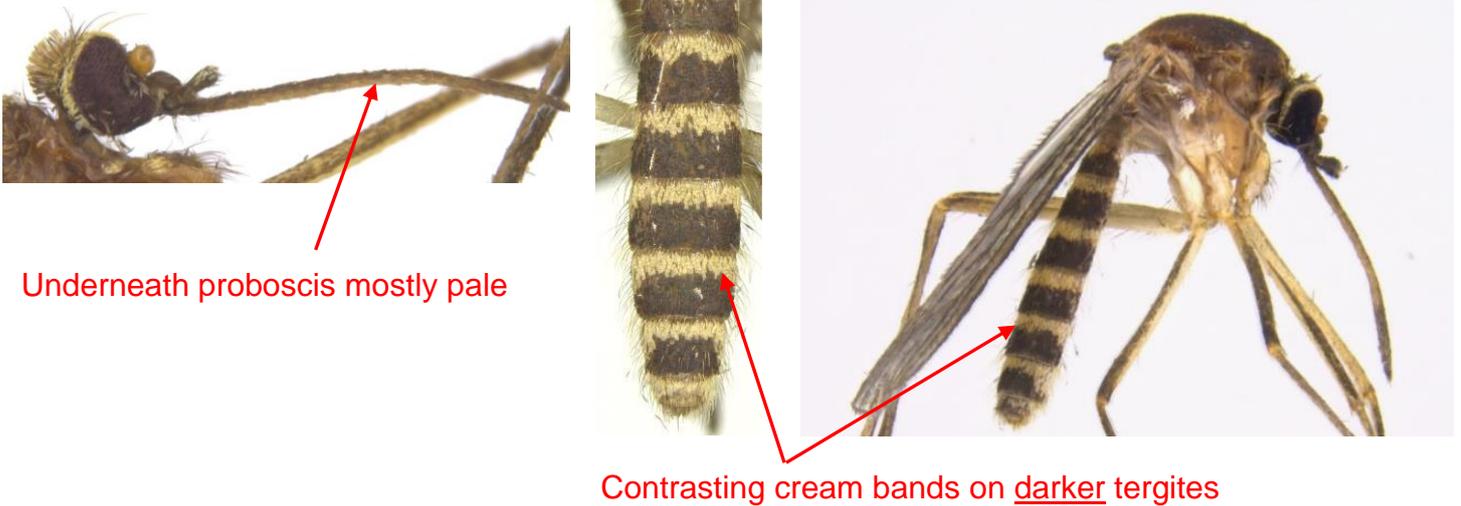
Bands do not extend to sides



ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

13

13A Tergites dark brown, with strongly contrasted broad cream bands, underside of proboscis mostly pale *Culex globocoxitus*



13B Tergites brown with less contrasting pale bands, last third of proboscis dark *Culex molestus*



ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

14

14A Darker mosquito with large distinct dark patches on the sternites *Culex australicus*



Distinct dark patches in middle and side of sternites



14B Lighter coloured mosquito, sternites mostly pale sometimes with some dark scales but no dark patches, usually only found breeding in urban areas *Culex quinquefasciatus*



Sternites mostly pale

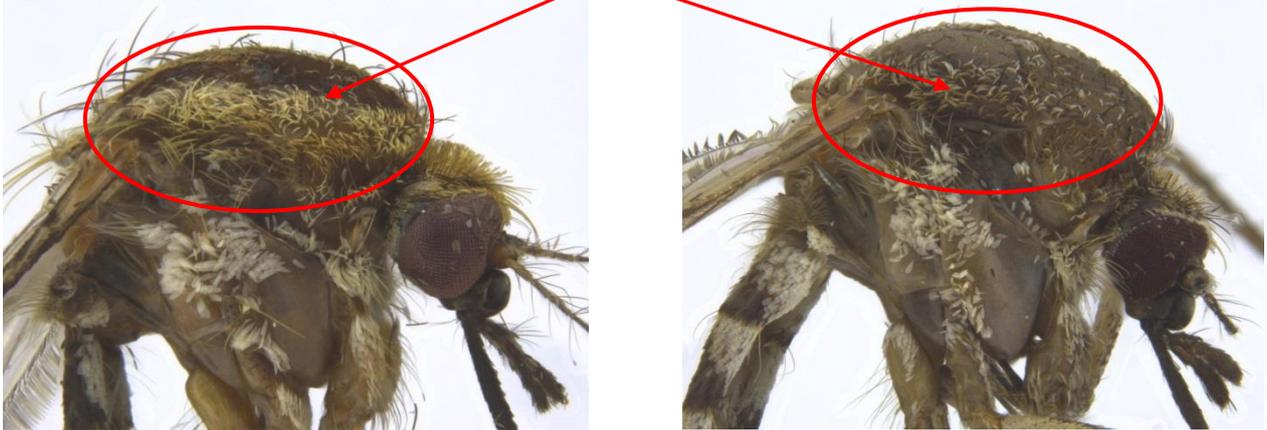


ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

15

15A Scutum with dark scales and pale scales at sides 16

Scutum with pale scales at sides



15B Scutum body otherwise 17

Scutum without pale scales



ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

16

16A Tergites dark with distinctive long pale stripe *Aedes ratcliffei*



Long pale stripe on tergites



16B Tergites with narrow creamy yellow bands and large basal lateral patches *Aedes nigrithorax*



Creamy basal bands and large basal patches



ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

17

17A Tergites dark with pale basal bands with median point, legs dark *Aedes sagax*



Median point on pale basal bands



17B Tergites otherwise 18

ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

18

18A Abdomen with row of single pale scales on apical edge of tergites *Aedes stricklandi*



Single row of apical pale scales



18B Lower body otherwise 19

ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

19

19 Tergites dark and mottled with pale scales *Aedes turneri*



19B Lower body otherwise 20

ILLUSTRATED KEY TO COMMON ADULT FEMALE MOSQUITOES IN SOUTH WEST REGION OF WA

20

20A Thorax orange to reddish brown, tergites purple with pale basal bands and concave shaped lateral patches *Aedes clelandi*



Thorax orange to red/brown



Concave lateral patch

20B Thorax dark brown to black, tergites dark purple with pale basal bands and convex shaped lateral patches *Aedes hesperonotius***



Thorax dark brown to black



Convex lateral patch

** *Ae. purpureifemur* is similar to *Ae. hesperonotius* but tergites have both basal and apical lateral patches and no bands, distinctive white scaling on side of thorax and sternites are mostly dark. *Ae. clelandi* and *Ae. hesperonotius* have pale sternites.

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