Key to the Genera of Adult Female Mosquitoes

1. Scutellum rounded with setae evenly distributed (Fig. 1); palpi about as long as proboscis (Fig. 2)



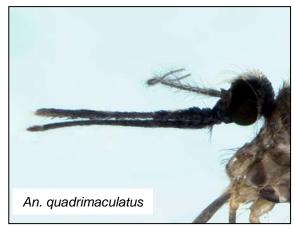
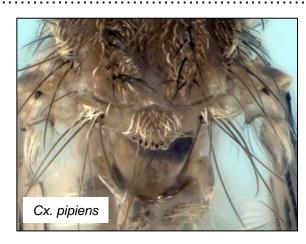


Fig. 1 Fig. 2

Scutellum trilobed with setae confined to three groups (Fig. 3); palpi shorter than proboscis (Fig. 4)



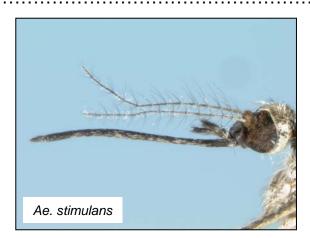


Fig. 3 Fig. 4



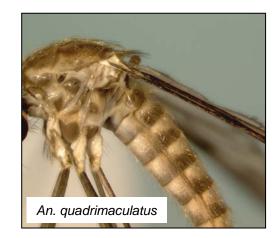


Fig. 5

Fig. 6

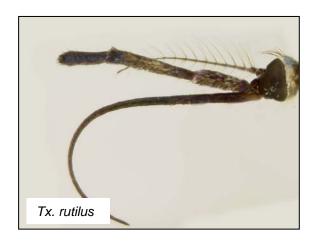


Fig. 7

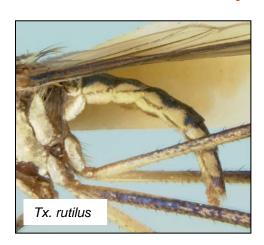


Fig. 8

3. Postspiracular setae present (Fig. 9); abdomen tapered with cerci exserted (Fig. 10)4



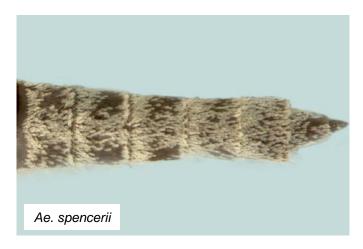


Fig. 9 Fig. 10

Postspiracular setae absent (Fig. 11); apex of abdomen rounded with cerci inserted (Fig. 12)





Fig. 11 Fig. 12

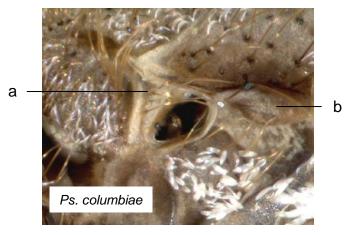


Fig. 13

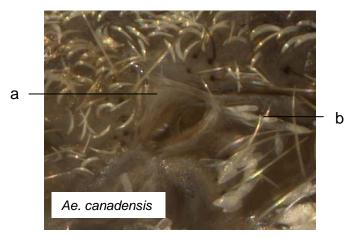


Fig. 14

Note: Spiracular setae are easily confused with the setae present on the hind margin of the postpronotum. Make sure the setae originate from the small triangular-shaped area immediately anterior to the spiracle and not the larger rounded area of the postpronotum.

5. Spiracular setae present (Fig. 15) 6

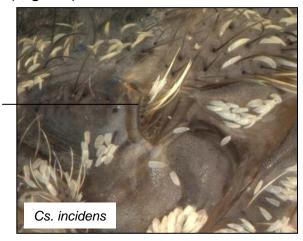


Fig. 15
Spiracular setae absent (Fig. 16)

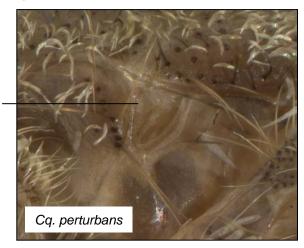


Fig. 16

Note: Spiracular setae are easily confused with setae on the hind margin of the postpronotum. Make sure the setae originate from the small triangular-shaped area immediately anterior to the spiracle and not the larger, rounded area of the postpronotum. Also, some spiracular setae are very small and difficult to see, particularly those of *Uranotaenia sapphirina* and *Wyeomyia smithii*. However, these species are easily recognized by other characteristics.



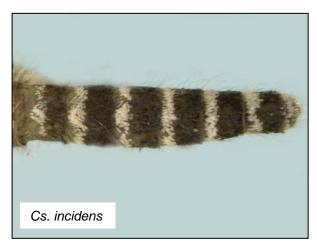
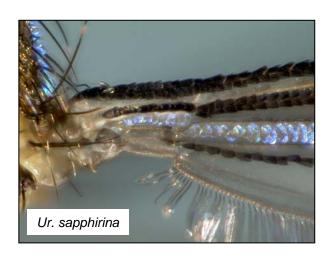


Fig. 17 Fig. 18





18

Fig. 19 Fig. 20

7. Scutum covered with broad, flattened brown scales (Fig. 21); postpronotum and most of pleuron (Fig. 22), as well as ventral surface of abdomen covered in silvery white scales

Note: found only in the pitchers of the plant, Sarracenia purpurea Wyeomyia







Fig. 22



Fig. 23



Fig. 24



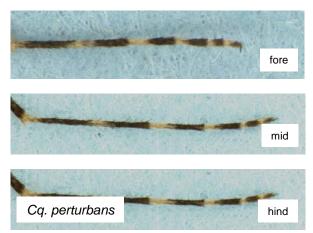
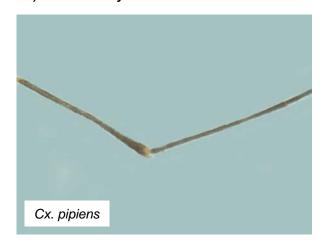


Fig. 25 Fig. 26



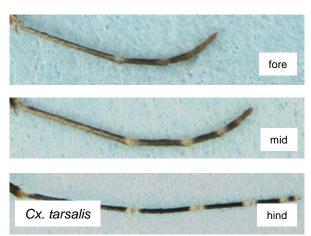


Fig. 27 Fig. 28

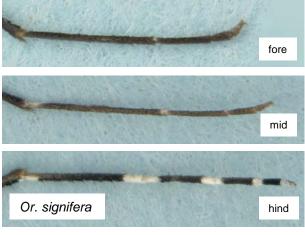




Fig. 29

Fig. 30



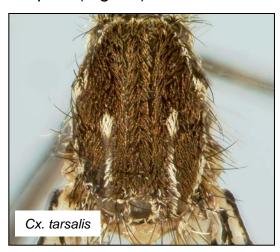


Fig. 32

Key to the Species of *Anopheles*

Anopheles are relatively large mosquitoes with long tarsi and palpi about as long as their proboscis.



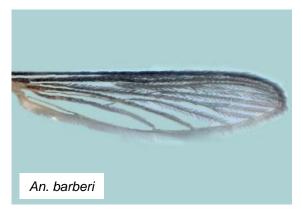


Fig. 33

Fig. 34

Scutal setae long and curved, arising somewhat randomly in acrostichal and dorsocentral regions (Fig. 35); wing scales aggregated in some areas, forming a pattern of darkened spots (Fig. 36) ... 2





Fig. 35 Fig. 36

Note: When scales of *Anopheles* wings are rubbed, the wings may appear to lack spots. *An. barberi* larvae occur mainly in tree holes and the adults are rarely collected in light traps.





Fig. 37 Fig. 38

Wing scales entirely dark and aggregations of dark wing scales less pronounced (Figs. 39 and 40) 6





Fig. 39 Fig. 40

3. Wing with golden fringe scales at wing apex and aggregations of dark wing scales very pronounced (Fig. 41) earlei



Fig. 41

Wing with several cream coloured spots and dark-scaled wing spots less dense (Fig. 42) 4



Fig. 42





Fig. 43 Fig. 44







Fig. 46



Fig. 47

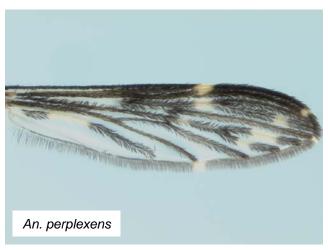


Fig. 48 26

6. Palpi with bands of whitish scales (Fig. 49); scutum dull, reddish to dark brown.......... walkeri



Fig. 49



Fig. 50

Scutum with acrostichal and dorsocentral gray pollinose bands that coalesce on posterior half (Fig. 51); scales on base of wing vein Cu linear with truncate apices (Fig. 52); British Columbia

..... freeborni





Fig. 51 Fig. 52

Scutum dull or reddish brown, usually without any pollinose pattern (Fig. 53); scales on base of wing vein Cu obovate with rounded apices (Fig. 54); east of Alberta quadrimaculatus





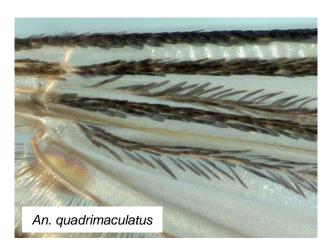


Fig. 54

Key to the Species of *Culex*

Culex mosquitoes are moderate in size, except Cx. territans which are often smaller. Cx. pipiens and Cx. restuans are often difficult to distinguish and should be referred to as Culex pipiens/restuans in doubtful specimens.

Note: while present throughout most of Canada, Cx. tarsalis is rare in Ontario relative to other Culex species



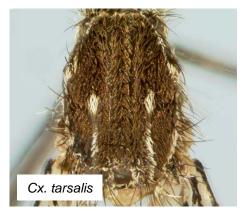


Fig. 55 Fig. 56



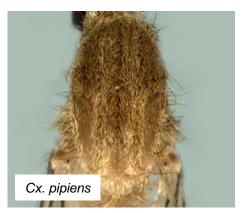


Fig. 57 Fig. 58 29

2. Abdominal tergites with white-scaled apical bands (Fig. 59) and/or apicolateral patches ... territans



Fig. 59



Fig. 60

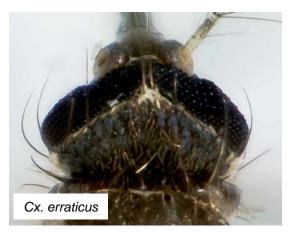




Fig. 61 Fig. 62





Fig. 63 Fig. 64

4. Abdominal tergites with narrow, dingy yellow or copper-coloured basal bands and dark scales with metallic reflections (Fig. 65); tergites VII and VIII usually entirely pale-scaled and/or with narrow, pale-scaled apical bands; scutellum usually with dark setae (Fig. 66) and small dark scales salinarius See Appendix





Fig. 65 Fig. 66





Fig. 67 Fig. 68





Fig. 69 Fig. 70

Scutum with coarser scales, without pale spots near middle (Fig. 71); abdominal tergites with either moderate basal bands that are rounded posteriorly and narrowly joined to yellowish lateral patches (Fig. 72), or with bands reduced to small, middorsal spots not joined to lateral patches pipiens

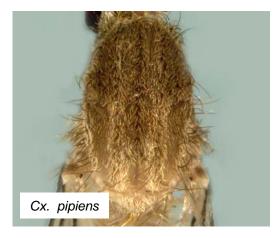






Fig. 72

Key to the Species of Culiseta

Mosquitoes of the genus *Culiseta* are relatively large, except for *Culiseta melanura* which can be much smaller than its congeners. *Culiseta melanura* may be mistaken for *Culex* species because of their smaller size, difficulty in seeing spiracular setae, and lack of other distinguishing characteristics.

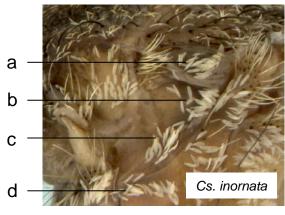


Fig. 73



Fig. 74

2. Tarsi with at least some tarsomeres (usually 2 and 3) having pale-scaled basal bands (Fig. 75) \dots 3

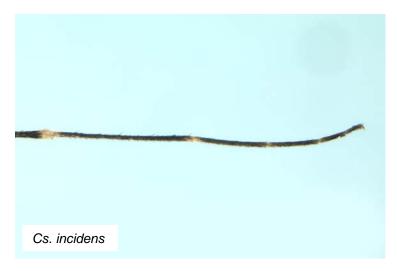


Fig. 75



Fig. 76

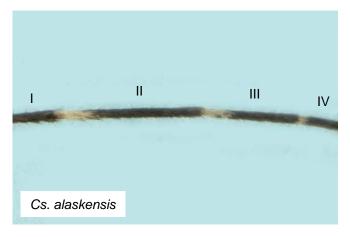




Fig. 77 Fig. 78

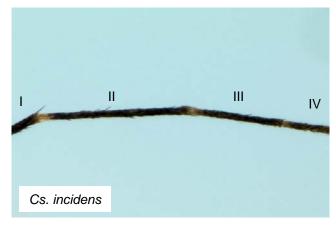




Fig. 79 Fig. 80

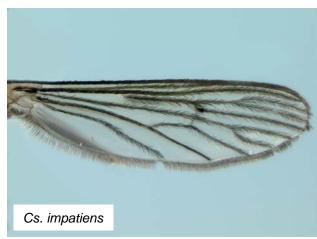




Fig. 81 Fig. 82

Wing veins entirely dark-scaled (may have bluish iridescence under certain lighting) with scales denser in some areas, forming a pattern of spots (Fig. 83); scutum mostly reddish-brown scaled with two narrow bands of pale scales extending posteriorly from pair of middorsal spots (Fig. 84); tarsi mostly dark-scaled

..... impatiens



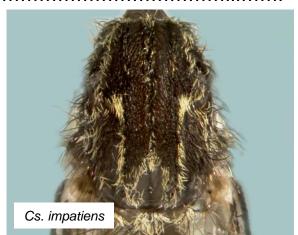


Fig. 83 Fig. 84 **37**





Fig. 85

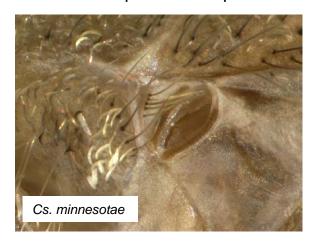




Fig. 87 Fig. 88





Fig. 89 Fig. 90

Postspiracular area typically with a small patch of scales (Fig. 91); abdominal tergites with irregular basal and apical bands of pale scales (Fig. 92); scutal integument reddish brown minnesotae Note: some Cs. minnesotae have scattered pale scales on abdominal tergites not organized into discrete basal and apical bands or in addition to the bands





39

Fig. 91 Fig. 92

Key to the Species of Aedes

Traditionally, the species of this were group were said to belong to the genus *Aedes*, including subgenera *Aedes* and *Ochlerotatus*. However, it was recently suggested to elevate the subgenus *Ochlerotatus* to the rank of genus (Reinert 2000) - a controversial arrangement that was not entirely accepted (Weaver 2005). Species names in this key include the subgeneric name to allow either method of nomenclature to be used.

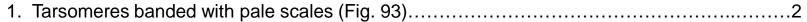




Fig. 93

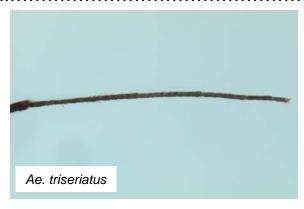


Fig. 94



Fig. 95

Pale-scaled bands present only on base of tarsomeres (Fig. 96)9



Fig. 96

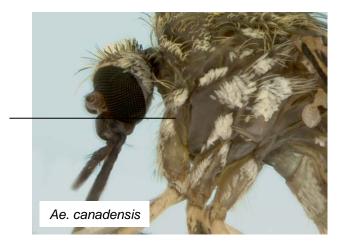




Fig. 97 Fig. 98





Fig. 99 Fig. 100

Note: Do not confuse the scales of the proepisternum with those of the postprocoxal membrane. The postprocoxal membrane can be difficult to see if specimen is desiccated.





Fig. 101 Fig. 102





Fig. 103 Fig. 104

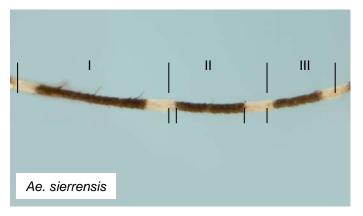


Fig. 105

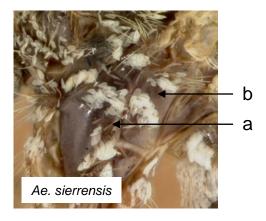


Fig. 106

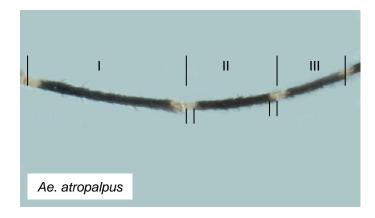


Fig. 107

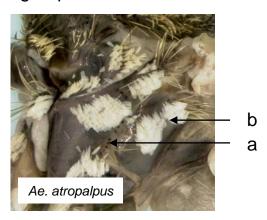


Fig. 108

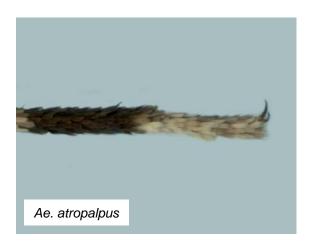




Fig. 109 Fig. 110







Fig. 112

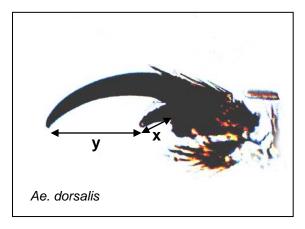


Fig. 113

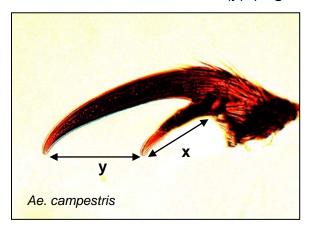


Fig. 114

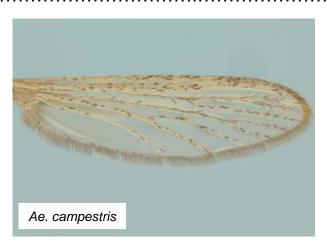




Fig. 115 Fig. 116





Fig. 117 Fig. 118



Fig. 119

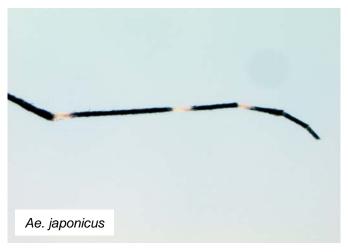


Fig. 120

Note: a median longitudinal stripe of pale scales may also be present in addition to the basal transverse bands.

See Appendix



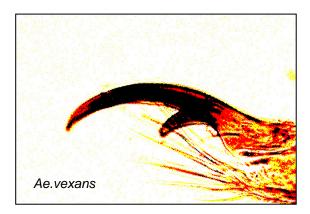


Fig. 121

Fig. 122

Abdominal tergites with indistinct bands broadly joined to lateral patches (Fig. 123); tergite VII mostly pale-scaled (Fig. 123); hindclaw lacking subbasal tooth (Fig. 124)

...... Aedes (Ochlerotatus) cantator

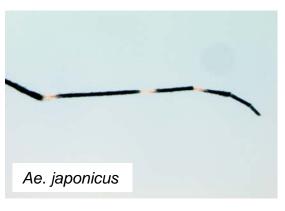




Fig. 123 Fig. 124

Note: these two can be difficult to distinguish - the absence of a subbasal tooth alone should not be used for identification.

Note: *Ae. fitchii* may have hind tarsomere 5 entirely dark-scaled and the band on hind tarsomere 1 distinct but specimens will not have any of the remaining characteristics



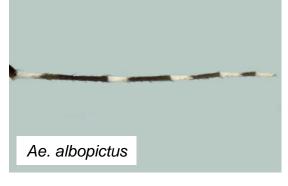


Fig. 125 Fig. 126

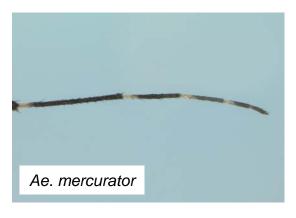




Fig. 127 Fig. 128 **50**





Fig. 129 Fig. 130





Fig. 131 Fig. 132

Note: These **species** are both recently introduced to Canada. For more information, see Recently Introduced Species





Fig. 133 Fig. 134





Fig. 135 Fig. 136 **52**



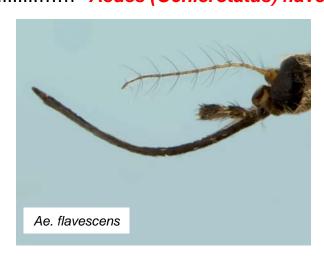


Fig. 137 Fig. 138

Abdominal tergites with a pale-scaled longitudinal median stripe in addition to basal bands (Fig. 139); proboscis with a well-defined ring of pale scales near middle (Fig. 140) 15





Fig. 139 Fig. 140

15. Pale scales of abdominal basal bands and median longitudinal stripe yellowish and those of lateral patches whitish (Fig. 141); first hind tarsomere with a distinct wide median band of yellow scales in addition to the basal band (Fig. 142); Maritime provinces and southwestern Ontario

Ae. sollicitans

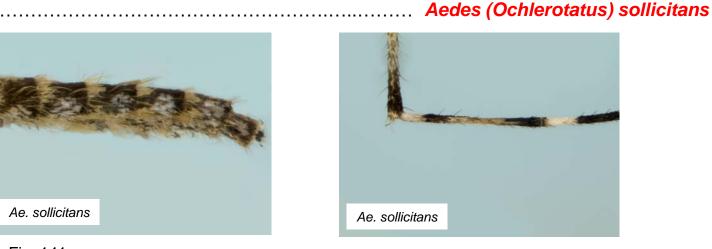


Fig. 141

Fig. 142

Pale scales of abdominal tergites (basal bands, the median longitudinal stripe, and the lateral patches) all uniformly yellowish (Fig. 143); yellowish scales in middle of first hind tarsomere not distinctly separated from the basal pale-scaled band (Fig. 144); Prairie provinces

...... Aedes (Ochlerotatus) nigromaculis





Fig. 143 Fig. 144 54

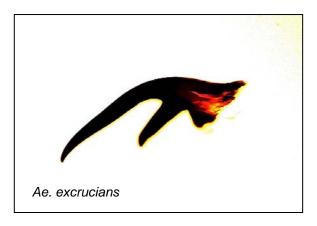


Fig. 145

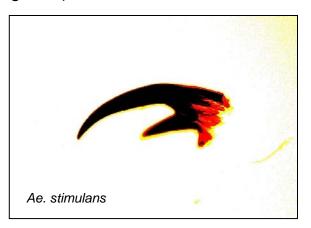


Fig. 146

Note: the appearance of the shape of tarsal claw changes when held at different angles, making them difficult to evaluate. The remaining species of this couplet are very similar in appearance and often difficult to identify. They are sometimes referred to as "broad-banded *Aedes*".





Fig. 147 Fig. 148





Fig. 149 Fig. 150





Fig. 151 Fig. 152





57

Fig. 153 Fig. 154

19. First abdominal sternite with pale scales and setae (Fig. 155); proboscis dark-scaled (Fig. 156); palpi with bands of pale scales; Saskatchewan westward *Aedes (Ochlerotatus) increpitus*

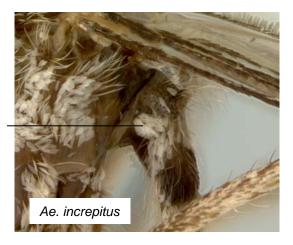




Fig. 155 Fig. 156





Fig. 157 Fig. 158





Fig. 159 Fig. 160





Fig. 161 Fig. 162 **59**



Fig. 163



Fig. 164

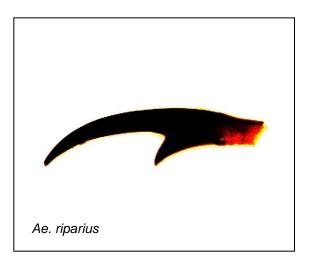


Fig. 165

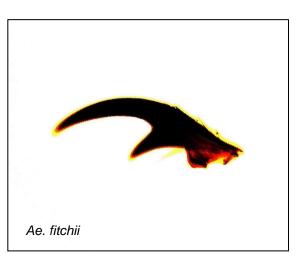


Fig. 166

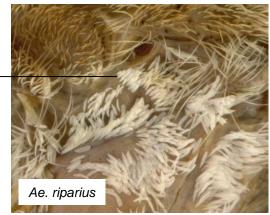


Fig. 167









Fig. 170



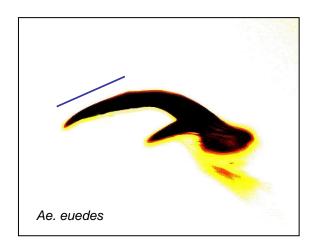


Fig. 171

Fig. 172

Proboscis (Fig. 173), cercus, and first tarsomere beyond pale basal band usually without pale scales; foreclaw shorter and strongly curved (Fig. 174) .. *Aedes (Ochlerotatus) fitchii*





Ae. fitchii

Fig. 173

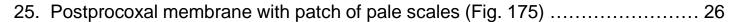




Fig. 175

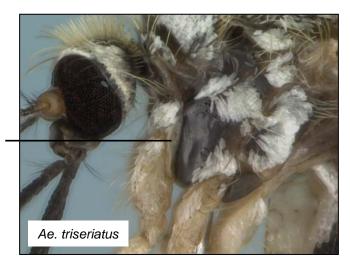


Fig. 176

Note: do not confuse the scales of the proepisternum (the adjacent dorsal region) with the scales of the postprocoxal membrane



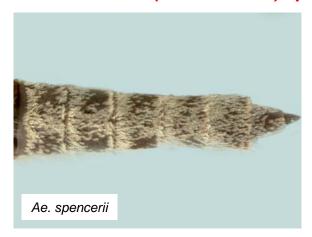


Fig. 177





Fig. 179 Fig. 18



Fig. 181

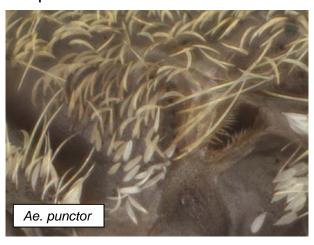


Fig. 182

28. Hindclaw nearly parallel to and sharply bent just beyond a long subbasal tooth (Fig. 183); pale pollinose band present on scutum below scales; postspiracular setae numbering 10 or less

Aedes (Ochlerotatus) impiger

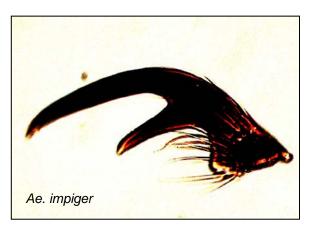


Fig. 183

Hindclaw not nearly parallel to and not strongly curved beyond short subbasal tooth (Fig. 185); scutum below scales velvety black with no pale pollinose band; 14 or more postspiracular setae

Aedes (Ochlerotatus) nigripes

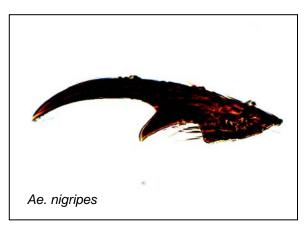


Fig. 184

29. An episternum densely covered with whitish scales, with bare spots only in a small area in centre of subspiracular area, below hypostigmal area (Fig. 185); hypostigmal area with scales 30



Fig. 185



Fig. 186



Fig. 187

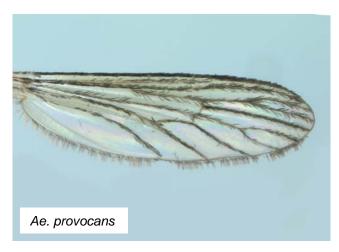


Fig. 188





Fig. 189 Fig. 190









Fig. 193



Fig. 194



Fig. 195



Fig. 196





Fig. 197 Fig. 198





Fig. 199 Fig. 200



Fig. 201

Scutum with uniform medium brown scales (Fig. 202); dark integument and narrower scales may cause submedian stripes to appear darker



Fig. 202





Fig. 203 Fig. 204





Fig. 205 Fig. 206 **75**





Fig. 207 Fig. 208





Fig. 209 Fig. 210



Fig. 211



Fig. 212



Fig. 213



Fig. 214 **78**



Ae. sticticus

Fig. 215 Fig. 216





Fig. 217 Fig. 218 **79**

41. Subbasal tooth of hindclaw long and narrow (Fig. 219) Aedes (Ochlerotatus) communis

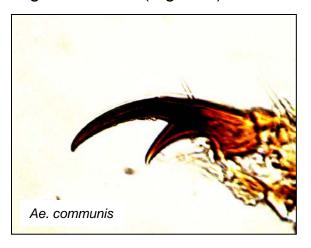


Fig. 219

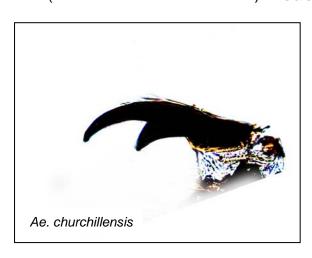


Fig. 220 **80**

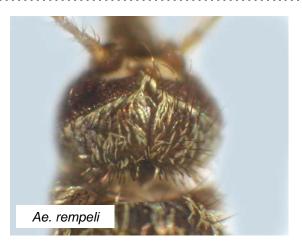
42. Scutum with scales uniformly bronzy or yellowish brown, without darker submedian bands (Fig. 221); vertex usually with both erect and recumbent scales yellow (Fig. 222)





Fig. 221 Fig. 222





81

Fig. 223 Fig. 224



Fig. 225

...... Aedes (Ochlerotatus) rempeli



Fig. 226





Fig. 227 Fig. 228

Pale scales of abdomen (Fig. 229), scutum, and pleuron yellowish; scales of postpronotum narrow and not overlapping, revealing underlying integument (Fig. 230)46





Fig. 229 Fig. 230 83

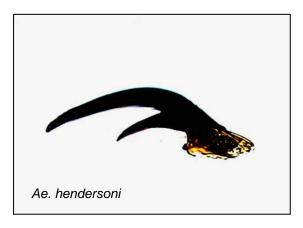




Fig. 231 Fig. 232

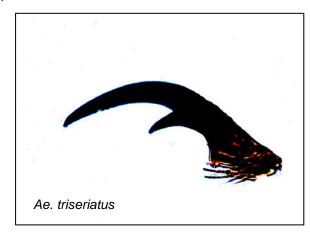




Fig. 233 Fig. 234 **84**

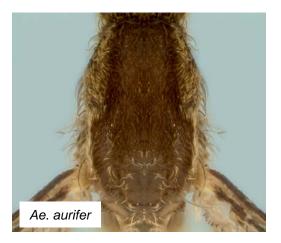




Fig. 235 Fig. 236

Anterior half of scutum with lateral and sublateral bands entirely pale-scaled, dark scales confined to submedian and median areas (Fig. 237); fore coxa pale-scaled (Fig. 238) 47



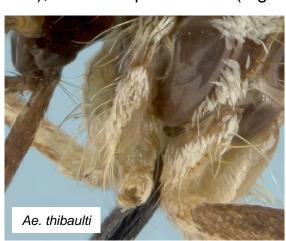


Fig. 237 Fig. 238 **85**

......Aedes (Ochlerotatus) thibaulti





Fig. 239

Scutum with dark brown submedian stripes separated by median band of pale scales (Fig. 241); dark-scaled sublateral bands posterior to transverse suture separated from submedian bands by pale scales (Fig. 241); scales surrounding prescutellar depression mostly pale (Fig. 242) 48

Fig. 240





Fig. 241 Fig. 242





Fig. 243 Fig. 244





Fig. 245 Fig. 246

Coquillettidia

The only known species in Canada is *Cq. perturbans*. This species was formerly assigned to the genus *Mansonia* and there remains disagreement about whether the current assignment is a warranted change.



Fig. 247



Fig. 249



Fig. 248



Fig. 250

Note: many specimens of *Cq. perturbans* with entirely pale-scaled legs were collected during the Ontario West Nile virus mosquito surveillance (2003-2005)
See *Appendix*

Key to the species of Psorophora

Psorophora species are rare relative to Culex, Aedes, and Anopheles species.

1. Palpus approximately one-third length of proboscis (Fig. 251); apices of hind tibia, femur, and tarsomeres with broad bands of long, dark, erect, shiny scales (Fig. 252); postpronotum without scales; scutum with bands of white and gold scales on anterior half and dark-scaled bands on posterior half

..... ciliata





Fig. 251 Fig. 252





Fig. 253 Fig. 254 **89**



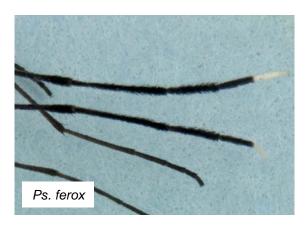


Fig. 255 Fig. 256





Fig. 257 Fig. 258 90

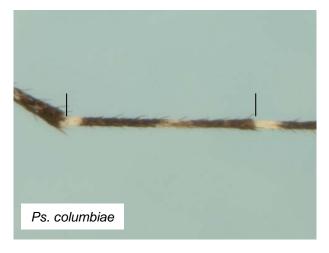






Fig. 260

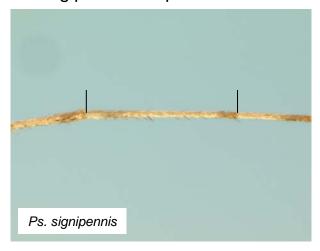


Fig. 261

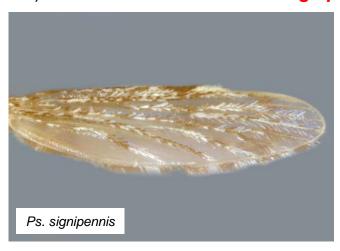


Fig. 262

Uranotaenia

The only known species in Canada is *Ur. sapphirina*. The male palpus is the same length as the female, but males can be distinguished from females by their plumose antennae.



Fig. 263



Ur. sapphirina

Fig. 264

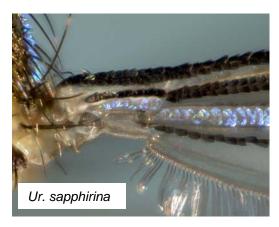


Fig. 265 Fig. 266

Wyeomyia

The only species known from Canada, *Wy. smithii*, is a small mosquito whose larvae develop in water that collects in leaves of the pitcher plant, *Sarracenia purpurea*. Both males and females have reduced palpi and males lack plumose antennae, making them indistinguishable from females except by genitalia.



Fig. 267



Wy. smithii

Fig. 268



Key to the Species of Orthopodomyia

Only two species are known to occur in Canada, *Or. alba* and *Or. signifera*, and the adult females are almost indistinguishable. Unlike other genera of Canadian mosquitoes, every part of the body and nearly every appendage has lines and patches of narrow white scales, which are very conspicuous against the dark brown integument (Fig. 271). Fore and midtarsi have a few white scales, but hind tarsi are conspicuously banded both apically and basally (Fig. 272). Larvae are found mainly in tree holes.



Fig. 271



1. Wing with white-scaled patches at base of vein R_{4+5} (Fig. 273a) and veins M_{1+2} and CuA_1 (Fig. 273b) form a broad white spot approximately one-third width of wing (Fig. 273b).....

..... signifera



Fig. 273

Wing with dark scales at base of vein R_{4+5} (Fig. 274a), the white-scaled patches on M_{1+2} and CuA_1 forming a smaller rounded spot less than one-quarter width of wing (Fig. 274b)

..... alk



Fig. 274

Toxorhynchites

These mosquitoes are extremely rare in Canada. The only species known from Canada, *Tx. rutilus*, was collected from a tree hole in Point Pelee National Park (Parker 1977). Larvae are very large, live in tree holes, and are predaceous on the larvae of other tree hole mosquitoes (Wood *et al.* 1979).



Fig. 275



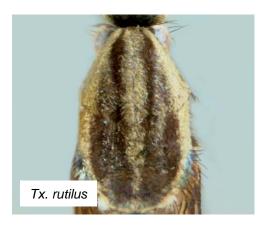


Fig. 276



Fig. 277 Fig. 278 96

Recently Introduced Species

Aedes (Ochlerotatus) japonicus

Aedes (Aedes) albopictus

Newly Introduced Species

Culex erraticus

Anopheles crucians

Aedes (Ochlerotatus) japonicus

Scutum with five gold-scaled longitudinal bands (Fig. 279); abdominal tergites dark-scaled with middorsal spots of pale scales (Fig. 280) and square-shaped, silvery blue-scaled basolateral patches; pale-scaled patches on side of thorax with a silvery and/or light blue reflection (Fig. 281); abdominal sternites with pale basal bands (Fig. 282); hind tarsomeres 1, 2, and sometimes 3 with broad, pale-scaled basal bands and tarsomeres 4 and 5 usually entirely dark-scaled (Fig. 283)



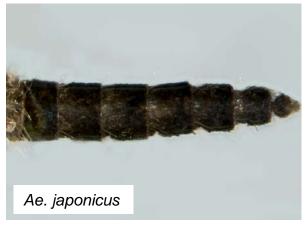
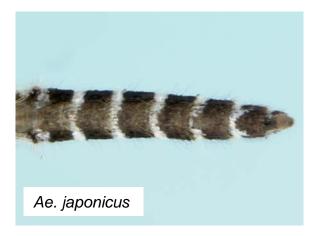




Fig. 279 Fig. 280 Fig. 281



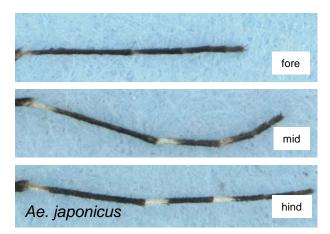


Fig. 282 Fig. 283 99

Aedes (Aedes) albopictus

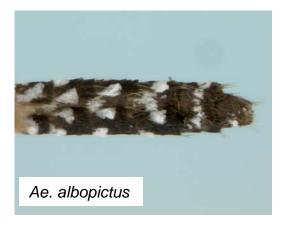
Scutum with a distinct single band of white scales (Fig. 284); abdominal tergites dark-scaled with narrow, basal bands of white scales (Fig. 285) and triangular, silvery white-scaled basolateral patches; pale-scaled patches on side of thorax silvery white (Fig. 286); abdominal sternites with white scales organized into distinct groups, not bands (Fig. 287); hind tarsomeres 1 to 4 with broad, white-scaled basal bands and tarsomere 5 entirely white-scaled (Fig. 288)







Fig. 284 Fig. 285 Fig. 286



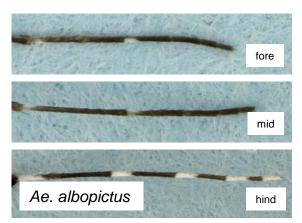


Fig. 287 Fig. 288

Culex erraticus

Eyes completely bordered by broad appressed scales (Fig. 289); proboscis and palpi dark-scaled; scutum with dark brown integument and narrow, curved, golden-brown scales, without acrostichal setae (Fig. 290); scutellum with narrow gold scales and brown setae on lobes; katepisternum and mesepimeron each with a small patch of pale scales (Fig 291); wing with broad scales on veins R₂ and R₃ (Fig. 292); tergites mostly dark-scaled with metallic reflection, sometimes with narrow, white-scaled, basal bands (Fig. 293)

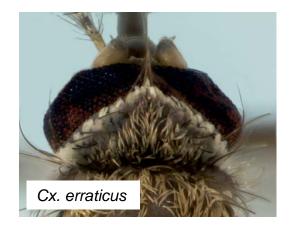






Fig. 289 Fig. 290 Fig. 291

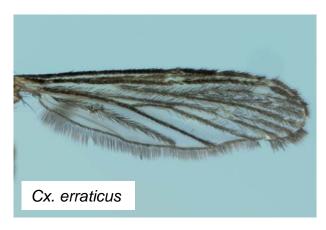




Fig. 292 Fig. 293 **101**

Anopheles crucians

Proboscis dark-scaled; palpi mostly dark-scaled with pale scales at base of segments 3 and 4 and segment 5 entirely pale-scaled (Fig. 294); integument of scutum mottled brown and gray (Fig. 295); most wing veins with numerous pale scales organized into a pattern of spots (Fig. 296); costa entirely dark-scaled except at apex (Fig. 296); wing vein A with three dark spots (Fig. 296); integument of abdomen dark brown to black with numerous yellow and brown setae (Fig. 297)



Fig. 294



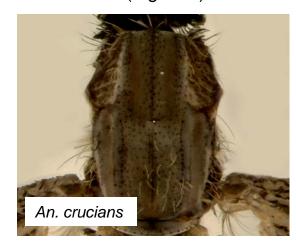


Fig. 295



Fig. 296 Fig. 297

Appendix

Culex salinarius

Aedes vexans nipponii

Aedes vexans have distinct, bilobed basal bands on abdominal tergites. However, many specimens were collected during WNv surveillance which had a middorsal longitudinal stripe of pale scales in addition to the pale-scaled basal bands. This character is used to separate Asian subspecies Aedes vexans nipponii and Aedes vexans vexans (Lee et al. 2002). Further studies are required pg 105

• Coquillettidia perturbans (pale legs)

Culex salinarius

Abdominal tergites usually dark-scaled, metallic blue-green reflection, and narrow, dingy yellow or coppery basal bands (Fig 298); degree of pale scaling may vary from being scarcely present on apical tergites only (Fig. 299) to having basal bands and tergites VI to VIII being entirely pale-scaled; tergites VI and VII usually have additional apical bands of pale scales and tergite VIII entirely pale-scaled (Fig. 300); vertex (Fig. 301), scutum (Fig. 302), and scutellum (Fig. 303) usually with dark scales and setae (but may be golden)



Cx. salinarius









Fig. 301 Fig. 302 Fig. 303

Aedes vexans nipponii

Specimens of *Ae. vexans* with a median longitudinal stripe in addition to the bilobed bands may be a recently introduced subspecies, *Ae. vexans nipponii* from East Asia (Lee *et al.* 1998). Further studies are required.

Abdominal tergites with pale scales forming a median, longitudinal stripe in addition to pale-scaled basal bands (Fig. 304), sometimes obscuring indentations in basal bands

Note: the degree of pale scaling can vary. Specimens with small extensions of the basal bands (small, triangular-shaped peaks on adjacent tergites) should not be considered *Ae. vexans nipponii*, but rather intraspecific variation of *Ae. vexans vexans*.



Fig. 304

Coquillettidia perturbans (pale legs)

Proboscis mostly pale-scaled, particularly basally (Fig. 305); wings with more pale scales than dark (Fig. 306); tergites with numerous pale scales in addition to the basal bands (Fig. 307); hind tibia and first tarsomere (Fig. 308) and all other tarsomeres (Fig. 309) mostly pale-scaled.

Note: the degree of paleness can vary – some specimens are almost completely pale-scaled while others have some slightly darker scales visible on legs and wings

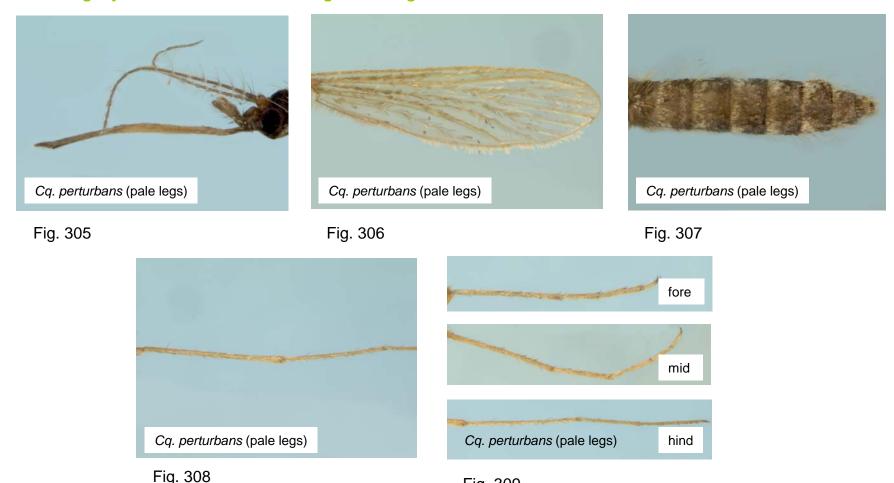


Fig. 309