

*Aedes (Fredwardsius) vittatus* (Bigot, 1861), WRBU specimen AEvit, Character descriptions: Edwards, 1941:155

Genus level - A very distinct species readily distinguished from any other mosquito by the leg-markings. The white spotted thorax bears some resemblance to that of some species of the subgenus *Aedimorphus*, and there are several other features in which the adult, as well as the larva and pupa of *A. vittatus*, shows some approach to *Aedimorphus*

Thorax. 2-5 Lower mesepimeral seta (MeSL). Paratergite (Pa) without or with a few broad white scales. Postspiracular setae (PS) present, Prespiracular area (PsA) without setae (PsS absent). (Edwards, 1941)

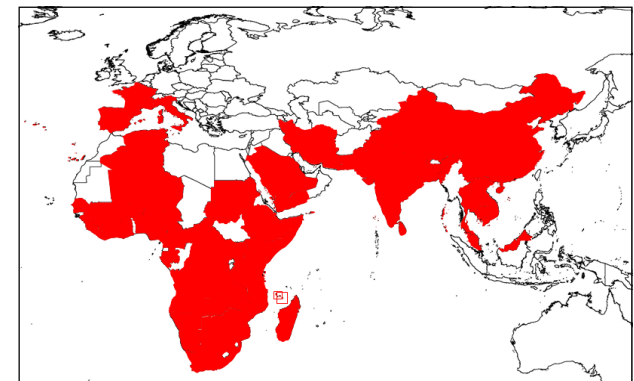
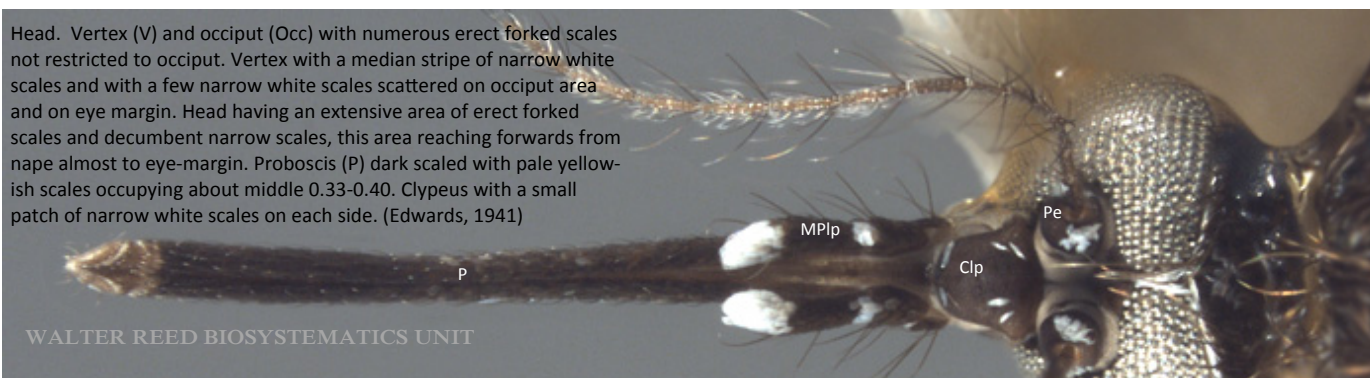


Thorax. Scutum with acrostichal setae. White spotted thorax

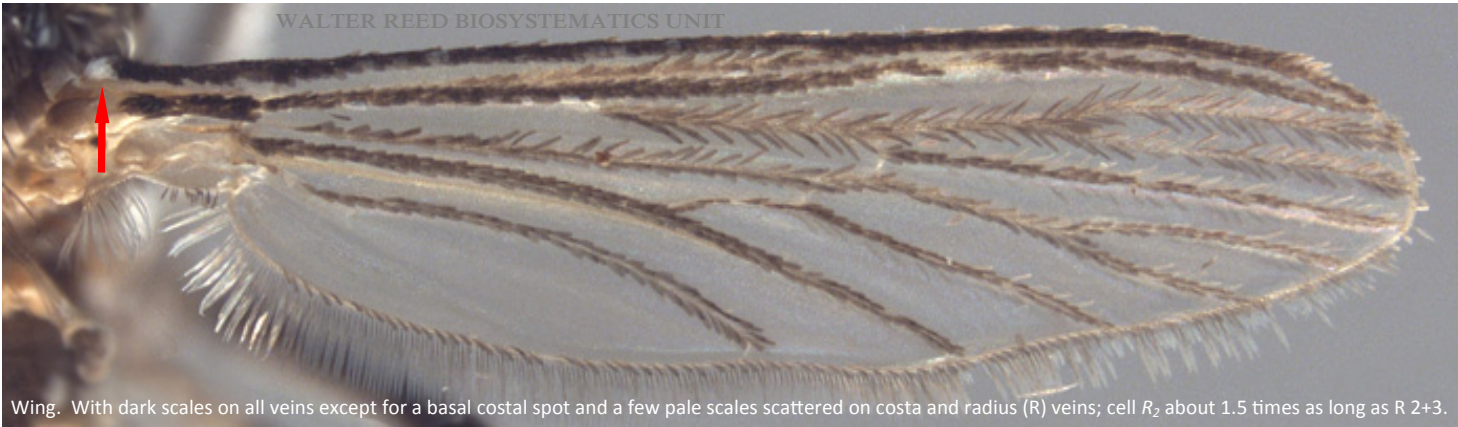


Posterior margin of scutellum (Scu) trilobed with broad white scales on all lobes and with a few broad dark ones at the apex of midlobe.

Head. Vertex (V) and occiput (Occ) with numerous erect forked scales not restricted to occiput. Vertex with a median stripe of narrow white scales and with a few narrow white scales scattered on occiput area and on eye margin. Head having an extensive area of erect forked scales and decumbent narrow scales, this area reaching forwards from nape almost to eye-margin. Proboscis (P) dark scaled with pale yellowish scales occupying about middle 0.33-0.40. Clypeus with a small patch of narrow white scales on each side. (Edwards, 1941)



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Wing. With dark scales on all veins except for a basal costal spot and a few pale scales scattered on costa and radius (R) veins; cell  $R_2$  about 1.5 times as long as  $R_{2+3}$ .



Male head. Maxillary Palpi as long as Proboscis. Antennae feather like.



Abdomen. Segment VIII completely retracted. Tergum I with a large median white spot; terga II-VII each with a basal white band and with lateral white curved markings which do not connect with the basal bands.

**Bionomics:** The immature stages of *vittatus* have been found mainly in rock pools and rock holes in Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, India and Africa. They have also been found in log holes in Thailand and Vietnam, in bamboo cups and tree trunks in Thailand. Immature stages have been found in association with *Aedes (Stegomyia) albopictus* (Skuse), *Aedes (Stegomyia) malayensis* Colless, and *Culex sp.* in Thailand, and with *Aedes malayensis* in Malaya. Mattingly (1952: 271) stated that *vittatus* preferred rock pools, occasional utensils, hoofprints, boats, wells, tree holes and bamboo pots. Boorman (1961: 721) found that deep rock holes usually contained larvae of *vittatus*, particularly those where the water was clear and there was a layer of mud and a few dead leaves. Service (1970: 104) stated that larvae of this species are found predominantly in pools in rock outcrops or river beds, or even in pools formed in coral and on several occasions at the peak of the breeding season in open floodwater concrete drains. In Thailand, this species was found mainly in partially shaded temporary small rock pools with fresh, colored water without algae in secondary deciduous forests or secondary rain forests, in a mountain area about 550-660 m or in small temporary rock pools surrounded by coconut palms and unshaded or partly shaded, situated in villages or beaches, along the sea coast, in that country at about sea level or 5-20 m. These contained brackish, clear or colored water, without algae. Boorman (1961: 720) took *vittatus* biting man in northern Nigeria in fair numbers. Over most of its range it appears to bite man freely and will at least occasionally enter villages to bite. Mattingly (1965: 56) states that it is usually recorded as biting man freely, but not in South Africa. Service in northern Nigeria (1970: 141) found that no adults were caught in a Magoon trap baited with goats, sheep, monkeys and a pig; porcupine was the most important host in the area. He also stated that *vittatus* has a relatively short crepuscular biting period, with maximum activity between 18:00 and 21:00.

**Medical Importance:** *Aedes vittatus* is a potential vector species. It can transmit yellow fever virus from monkey to monkey in the laboratory (Philip 1929) and has been suspected as a vector in the Nuba Mountain epidemic in Sudan (Lewis, 1943).

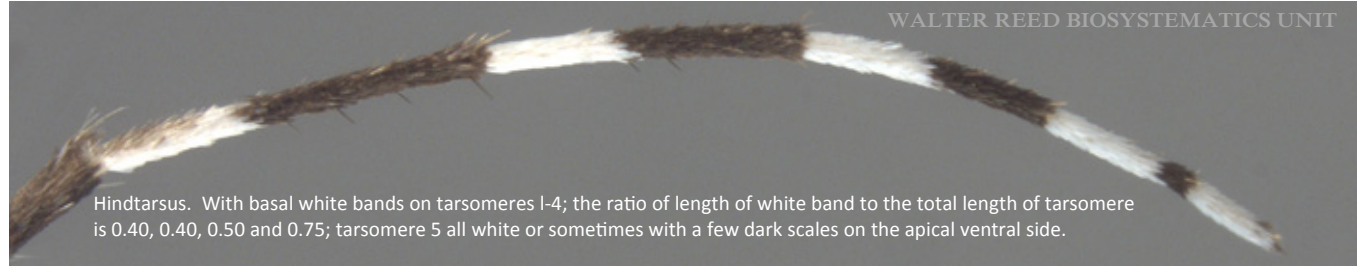


HindLeg.

Leg. Knee-spots present on all femora; all femora anteriorly dark with some white scales scattered, more so on mid- and hind- than on forefemur and each with a white band at about apical 0.25; all tibiae dark, each with a subbasal white spot and a white band at about basal 0.33 on fore- and mid- and at about 0.5 on hindtibia.



Legs. Pulvillus absent, or not well developed (hair-like)



Hindtarsus. With basal white bands on tarsomeres 1-4; the ratio of length of white band to the total length of tarsomere is 0.40, 0.40, 0.50 and 0.75; tarsomere 5 all white or sometimes with a few dark scales on the apical ventral side.