Anopheles (Cellia) arabiensis Patton, WRBU specimen *Anara,* Character descriptions: Wall, 1905: 625

Anopheles gambiae and *Anopheles arabiensis* are morphologically indistinguishable in the adult stage, have overlapping distributions, but are behaviorally and ecologically different.

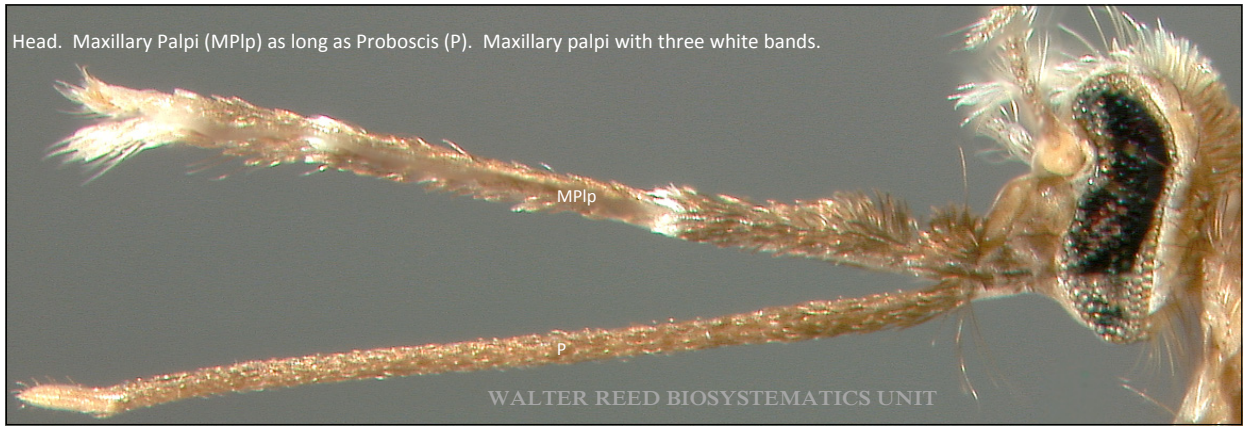
Head.

Thorax.

No Photo Available

Bionomics: *An. arabiensis* larvae are found in relative short duration habitats (3-5 weeks) with high turbidity and lacking in aquatic vegitation or surface film. Chosen breeding sites appear to be associated with cattle, the preferred host. (Gimnig, Ombok, Kamau and Hawley, 2001:286). *An. arabiensis* is able to utilize a greater variety of locations than *An. gambiae*, including slow flowing, partially shaded streams and a variety of large and small natural and man-made habitats. It has been found in turbid waters and, on occasion, in brackish habitats (Harbach, unpub. obs.). *Anopheles arabiensis* is considered a species of dry, savannah environments and sparse woodland, yet it is known to occur in forested areas, but only where there is a history of recent land disturbance or clearance. The behavioural variability of *An. arabiensis* is clearly evident, with similar numbers of studies reporting either anthropophilic or zoophilic behaviour. Blood feeding times also vary in frequency but biting generally occurs during the night. Peak evening biting times can begin in the early evening (19:00) or early morning (03:00).

Medical Importance: *An. arabiensis*, along with *gambiae* and *funestus* are the primary vectors of malaria in sub-Saharan Africa. (Gimnig et al., 2001:282)



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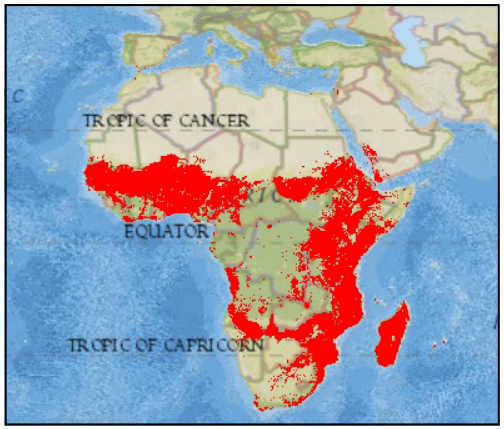
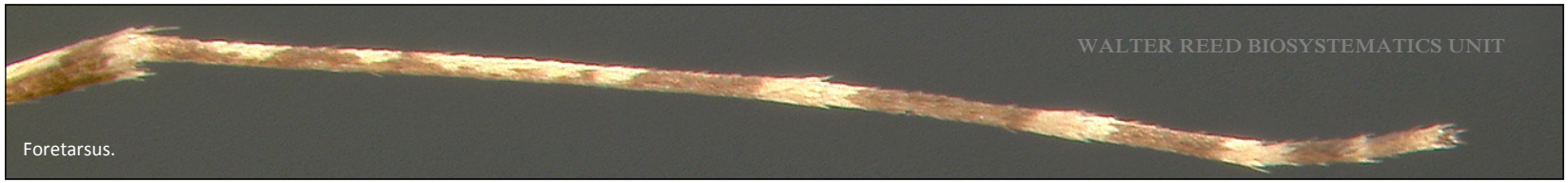
Wing.



Dorsal Abdomen

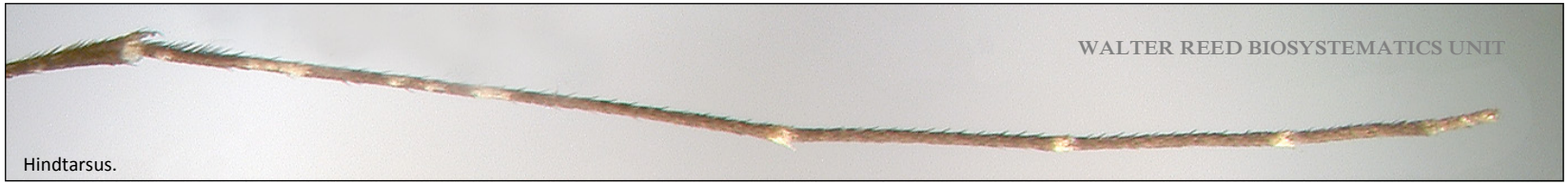
Abdomen.

ForeLeg.



Foretarsus.

Leg. Hindleg



Hindtarsus.