

Psorophora (Grabhamia) columbiae (Dyar & Knab), field-collected in Fort Bragg, NC, 2014, Character descriptions: Carpenter and LaCasse, 1955:129

ADULT FEMALE. Medium-sized to rather large species. Pleura with patches of broad appressed whitish scales.

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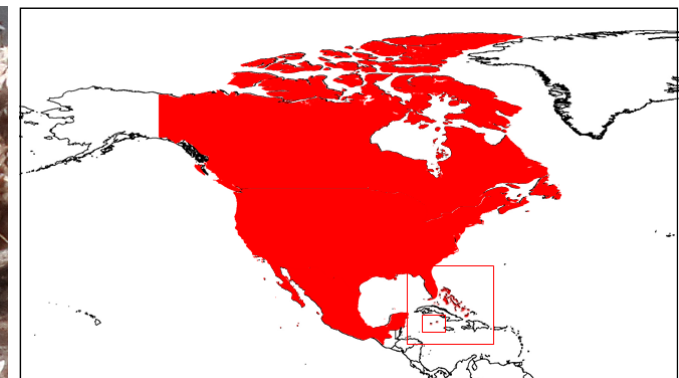
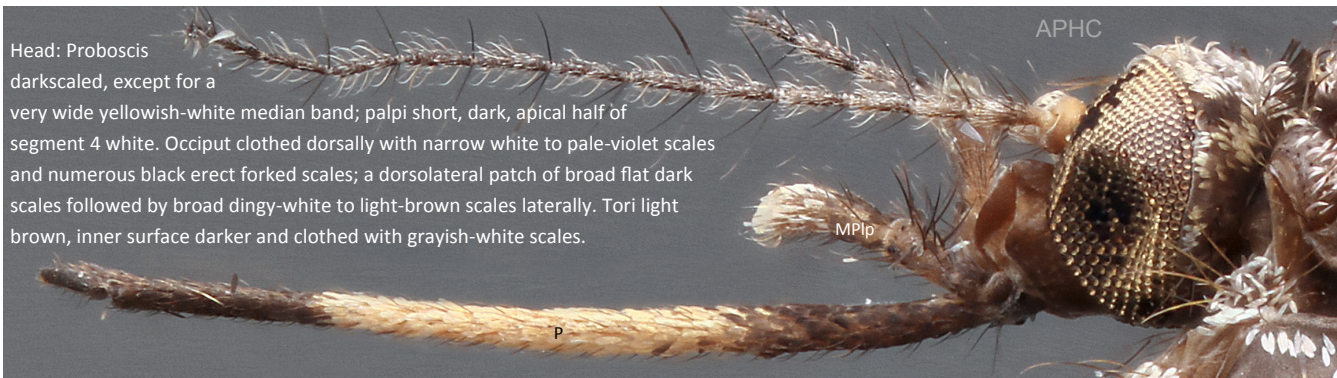
Thorax: Integument of scutum dull black; scutum clothed with fine narrow bronze-brown to blackish scales, except for lavender-tinted narrow white scales on the prescutellar space, the anterolateral angle of scutum, a streak on scutal angle, a patch above wing base, and a small submedian spot near middle of scutum. Scutellum with long narrow whitish scales and dark setae on the lobes.

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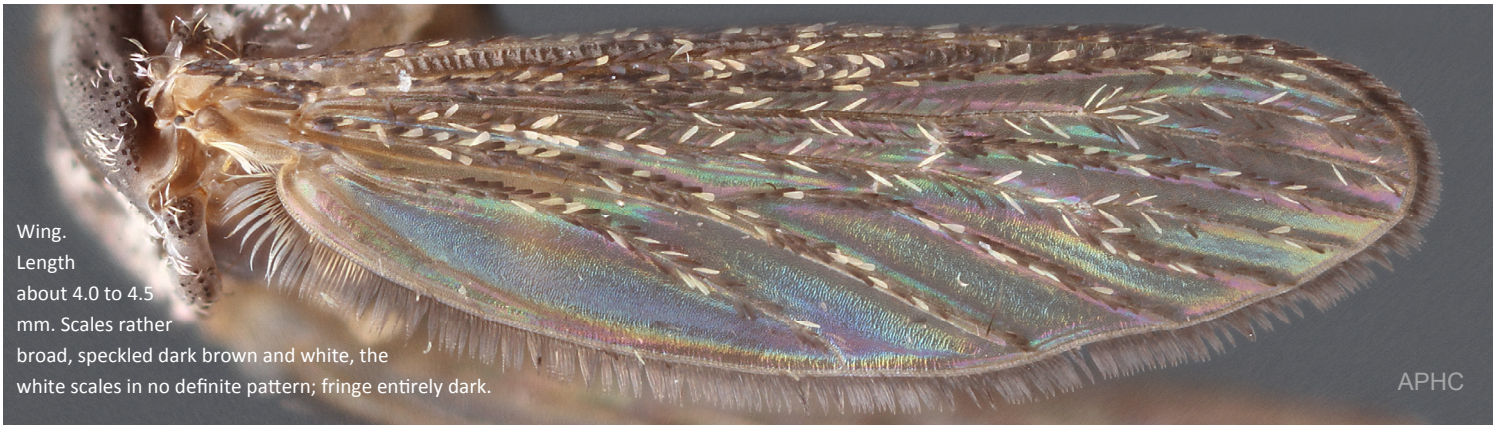


Head: Proboscis darkscaled, except for a very wide yellowish-white median band; palpi short, dark, apical half of segment 4 white. Occiput clothed dorsally with narrow white to pale-violet scales and numerous black erect forked scales; a dorsolateral patch of broad flat dark scales followed by broad dingy-white to light-brown scales laterally. Tori light brown, inner surface darker and clothed with grayish-white scales.

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Wing. Length about 4.0 to 4.5 mm. Scales rather broad, speckled dark brown and white, the white scales in no definite pattern; fringe entirely dark.

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Male head.

No Photo Available



Abdomen. First tergite with a median patch of grayishwhite scales ; remaining tergites dark, with white to pale-yellow-scaled apical markings, triangular in shape on II and III, divided into paired submedian patches on IV-VII.

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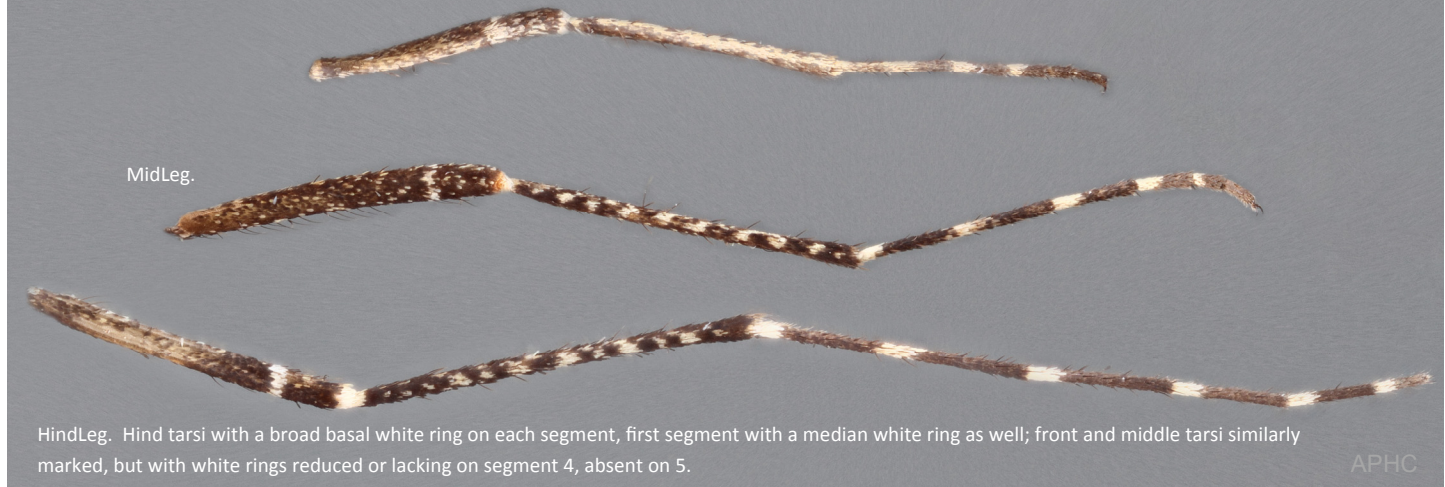


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Bionomics: The larvae develop in temporary shallow freshwater pools and puddles where there is vegetation. The larvae may occasionally be found in slightly brackish water. Ideal sites for Production of larvae are ricefields, grassy roadside ditches, and grassy swales. The normal flight range of this mosquito is at least 6-8 miles; however, much longer distances have been recorded. The mosquito is readily attracted to light, and the New Jersey light trap is commonly used to monitor populations. (Meisch, 1994)

Medical Importance: The females are furious biters in day or night. Hosts include any warm blooded animal; however bovine blood seems to be preferred. In large numbers, they have been reported to kill livestock. (Meisch, 1994)

Legs. Femora dark-brown to black-scaled, liberally speckled with white scales, posterior surface largely pale-scaled; each femur with a narrow subapical white-scaled ring; knee spots white. Tibiae black, with numerous small whitescaled spots on outer surface.



MidLeg.

HindLeg. Hind tarsi with a broad basal white ring on each segment, first segment with a median white ring as well; front and middle tarsi similarly marked, but with white rings reduced or lacking on segment 4, absent on 5.

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