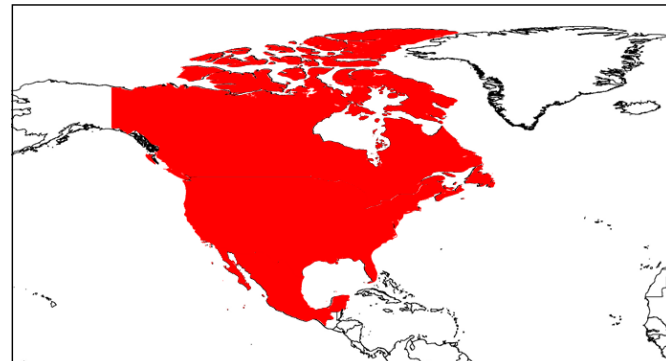
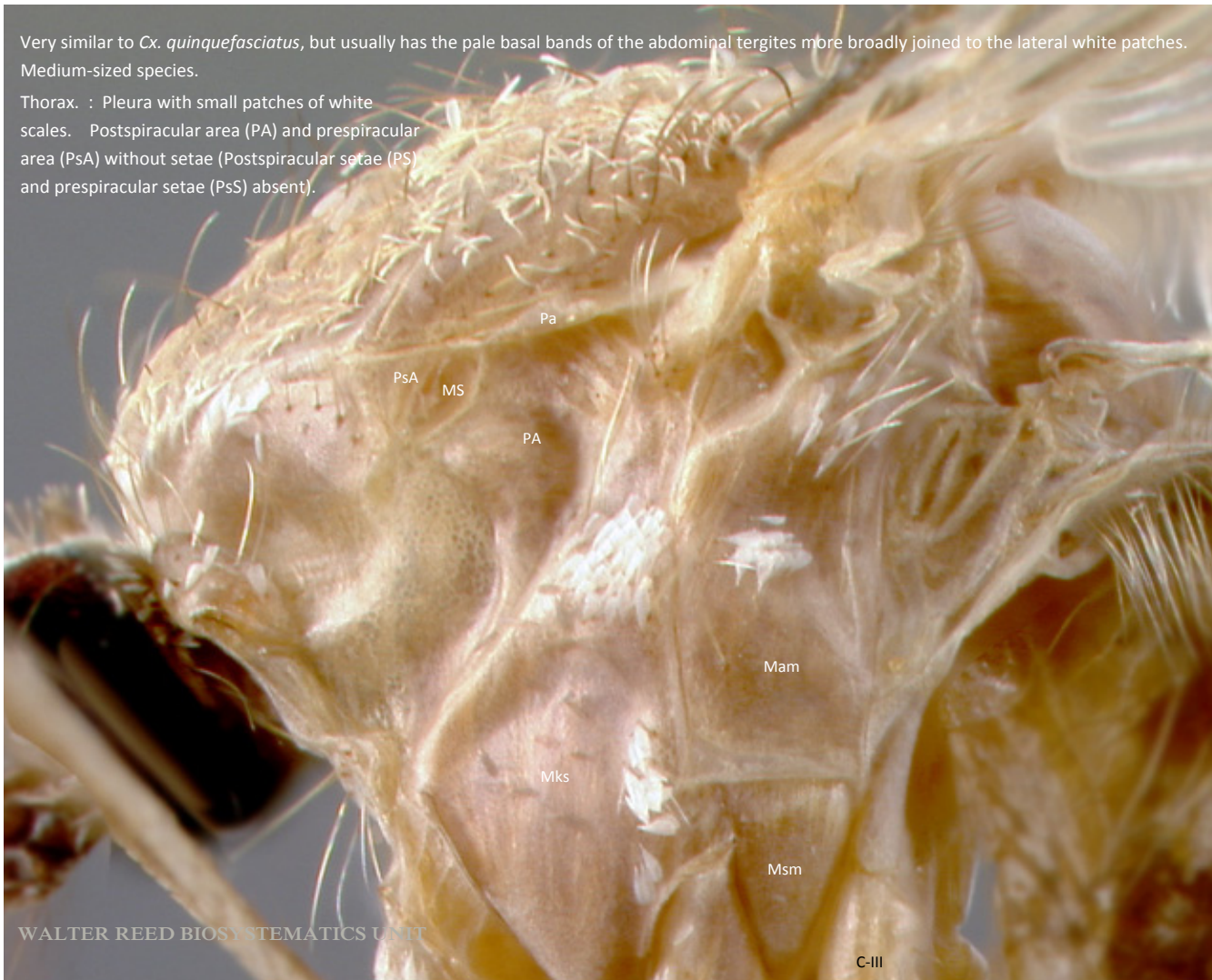




*Culex (Culex) tarsalis* Coquillett, WRBU specimen CXtar, Character descriptions: Carpenter & LaCasse, 1955:294

Very similar to *Cx. quinquefasciatus*, but usually has the pale basal bands of the abdominal tergites more broadly joined to the lateral white patches. Medium-sized species.

Thorax. : Pleura with small patches of white scales. Postspiracular area (PA) and prespiracular area (PsA) without setae (Postspiracular setae (PS) and prespiracular setae (PsS) absent).



Head.

*Culex (Culex) tarsalis* Coquillett, WRBU specimen CXtar, Character descriptions: Carpenter & LaCasse, 1955:294

**Bionomics:** The larvae are found in clear or foul water in a variety of habitats including ditches, irrigation systems, ground pools, marshes, pools in stream beds, rain barrels, hoofprints, and ornamental pools. Foul water in corrals and around slaughter yards appear to be favorite larval habitats in many localities. *Cx. tarsalis* are biters, attacking at dusk and after dark, and readily entering dwellings for blood meals. Domestic and wild birds seem to be the preferred hosts. and man, cows, and horses are generally incidental hosts. (Carpenter and LaCasse, 1955:296)

**Medical Importance:** *Culex tarsalis* is believed to be the chief vector of western equine encephalitis virus under natural conditions. The virus has been isolated from wild-caught *C. tarsalis* on several occasions in areas in which the disease was both epidemic and epizootic. The viruses of both St. Louis and California encephalitis have been isolated from this mosquito. (Carpenter and LaCasse, 1955:296) It also a vector of West Nile Virus (Hayes et al., 2005)

Male head.

No Photo Available

