

Mesopostnotal Vestiture in Genus *Ochlerotatus* Lynch Arribálzaga (Diptera: Culicidae)

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Abstract

Vestiture on the mesopostnotum is reported for six species of genus *Ochlerotatus*, two species of subgenus *Rusticoidus* and four of subgenus *Zavortinkius*. Setae and scales on this structure have not been reported for any of the other 19 subgenera of the genus.

Introduction

Setae or scales or both are present on the mesopostnotum of most species of tribe Sabethini (absent in genera *Malaya* Leicester, *Maorigoeldia* Edwards, and *Topomyia* Leicester) and subgenus *Heizmannia* Ludlow of genus *Heizmannia* (absent in subgenus *Mattinglyia* Lien), and many species of genus *Eretmapodites* Theobald. Harrison & Bickley (1990) provided a review of setae and scales on the mesopostnotum for family Culicidae. Their review indicated that setae or scales or both occurred in only three tribes of Culicidae recognized at that time (i.e., Aedini, Culicini and Sabethini). In addition to the above they reported the presence of vestiture in a few species of genera *Armigeres* Theobald (1), *Culex* Linnaeus (4), *Deinocerites* Theobald (7), *Galindomyia* Stone & Barreto (1), *Haemagogus* Williston (9) and *Verrallina* Theobald (2) (numbers of species in parentheses following each genus). They did not report their occurrence in any species currently included in genus *Ochlerotatus* Lynch Arribálzaga [genus was recently restored to generic rank by Reinert (2000a)].

Species of genus *Ochlerotatus* with vestiture on the mesopostnotum

Edwards (1920, 1921) reported the presence of a tuft of narrow, curved scales on this thoracic area in *Ochlerotatus* (*Rusticoidus*) *lepidonotus* Edwards. Reinert (1999a), in an expanded redescription of subgenus *Rusticoidus* Shevchenko & Prudkina, noted that specimens of *Oc. lepidonotus* possessed two short golden or white setae in addition to a patch of golden, narrow scales on the median, caudal area of the mesopostnotum. The type series adults of *Oc. refiki* Medschid, another species of subgenus *Rusticoidus*, have a few narrow, curved, white scales and short, white setae in a posterior, median patch (Reinert, 2000b). Reinert (1999b) recorded broad, silvery, spatulate scales on the anteromedian area of the mesopostnotum of *Oc. fulgens* Edwards, *Oc. huangae* (Reinert), *Oc. monetus* (Edwards) and *Oc. mzooi* (van Someren) of subgenus *Zavortinkius* Reinert.

Currently within genus *Ochlerotatus*, setae or scales or both on the mesopostnotum have been reported in only two of the eight species of subgenus *Rusticoidus* and four of the 11 species of subgenus *Zavortinkius* and not in any of the other 19 subgenera. The position of the scales on the mesopostnotum and their type is different in the two subgenera (i.e., *Rusticoidus* has narrow scales and setae on the posterior, median area whereas *Zavortinkius* has broad, spatulate scales on the anterior, median area and setae are absent) suggesting that homology of the vestiture on the mesopostnotum is in need of further study.

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Recent changes to the classification of the composite genus *Aedes* and tribe Aedini (Diptera: Culicidae)

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Abstract

Recent changes in the classification of the composite genus *Aedes* and tribe Aedini are provided. These include the division of *Aedes* into genera *Aedes* and *Ochlerotatus* (the latter was restored to generic rank), restoration of subgenera *Ayurakitia* and *Verrallina* to generic status, transfer of subgenus *Sinoaedes* to genus *Heizmannia* and synonymy with subgenus *Mattinglyia*, and synonymy of tribe Armigerini with tribe Aedini. A revised list containing generic and subgeneric abbreviations was given and included all genera and subgenera of tribe Aedini and family Culicidae.

Recent changes

The composite genus *Aedes* Meigen was divided into genera *Aedes* and *Ochlerotatus* Lynch Arribalzaga by Reinert (2000d) based on consistent characters of the female and male genitalia, and supplemental features of the female and male genitalia, pupae, and fourth-instar larvae. The genus *Ochlerotatus* was restored to generic rank and was further divided into two sections based on features of the fourth-instar larvae and pupae. The 22 subgenera included within genus *Aedes* are: *Aedes*, *Aedimorphus* Theobald, *Alanstonea* Mattingly, *Albuginosus* Reinert, *Belkinus* Reinert, *Bothaella* Reinert, *Cancraedes* Edwards, *Christophersiomyia* Barraud, *Diceromyia* Theobald, *Edwardsaedes* Belkin, *Fredwardsius* Reinert, *Huaedes* Huang, *Indusius* Edwards, *Isoaedes* Reinert, *Leptosomatomyia* Theobald, *Lorrainea* Belkin, *Neomelaniconion* Newstead, *Paraedes* Edwards, *Pseudarmigeres* Stone & Knight, *Scutomyia* Theobald, *Skusea* Theobald, and *Stegomyia* Theobald.

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