

## Definitions of Types

More and more, the study of mosquitoes involves defining species, and those involved in the study of these insects may need to refer to articles describing species and sub-species. The following definitions have been compiled and may be useful to non-taxonomists reading mosquito descriptions. The list only includes those kinds of type specimens that are regulated by the *International Code of Zoological Nomenclature*.

### **Holotype**

The single specimen selected by the original author(s) of a species or subspecies to be the name-bearing reference specimen for the new name.

### **Paratype**

Each specimen, except the holotype, of a series of specimens used by an author(s) to formally describe and name a new species or subspecies.

### **Syntype**

Each of two or more specimens used to describe a new species or subspecies where neither a holotype nor lectotype has been designated. Each and all equivalent to holotype.

### **Lectotype**

A syntype designated as the single name-bearing specimen sometime after the original description of a new species or subspecies. Equivalent to holotype.

### **Paralectotype**

Each specimen of a syntype series remaining after the designation of a lectotype. Equivalent to paratype.

### **Neotype**

A single specimen designated as the name-bearing type of a nominal species or subspecies as a replacement for a holotype, syntype series or lectotype thought to be non-existent. Proxy type.

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