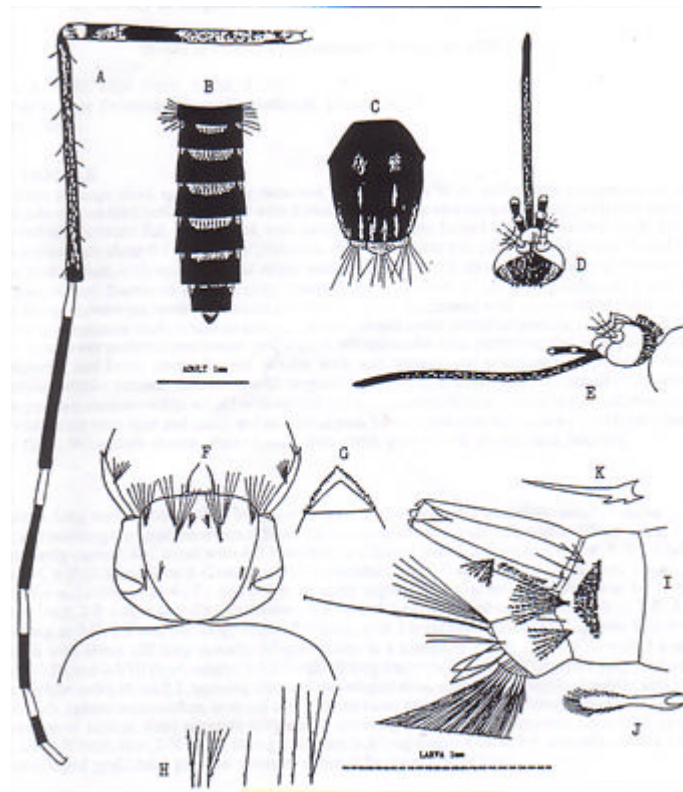


Mosquitos



Culex (Culex) annulirostris A: Adult head and thorax (lateral); B: Abdomen (dorsal); C: Hindleg; D: Foreleg; E: Wing (detail of scaling on some veins shown); F: Larval head (dorsal); G: Mentum; H: Abdominal segment VIII (lateral); I: Lateral comb scale (detail); J: Pecten teeth (detail of basal and apical teeth).

Aedes (Finlaya) alboannulatus

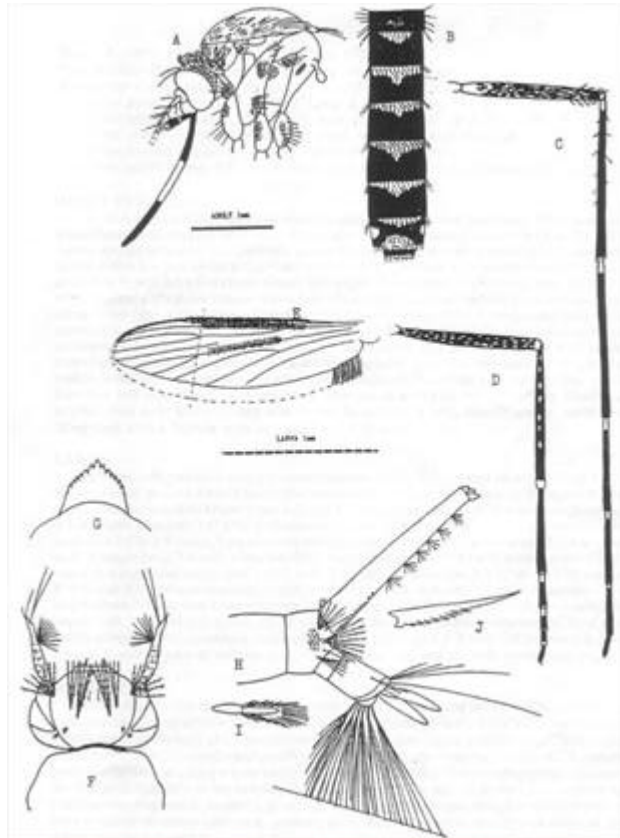
Biology

The species breeds in temporarily rain filled ground or rock pools, open or sunlit, or in forest areas. Water may be clear or clouded. The eggs are resistant to desiccation, and are laid singly in the soil substrate of drying ground pools.

Adults bite man and mammals readily at dusk or in sheltered shaded sites during the day. Birds other than domestic fowls are also attacked. Adults are readily captured in light / CO₂ traps. *Aedes alboannulatus* can be found predominantly during the months May to October.

Relation to Disease

This species is not associated with any human disease, but may have been a mechanical vector of myxomatosis in rabbits.



Hindleg; B: Abdomen (dorsal); C: Thorax (dorsal); D: Head (dorsal); E: Head (lateral); F: Larval head (dorsal); G: Mentum; H: Prothoracic setae 1-P to 7-P (shoulder hairs); I: Abdominal segment VIII (lateral); J: Lateral comb scale (detail); K: Pecten tooth (detail).

Culex (Culex) annulirostris **Ross River Virus**

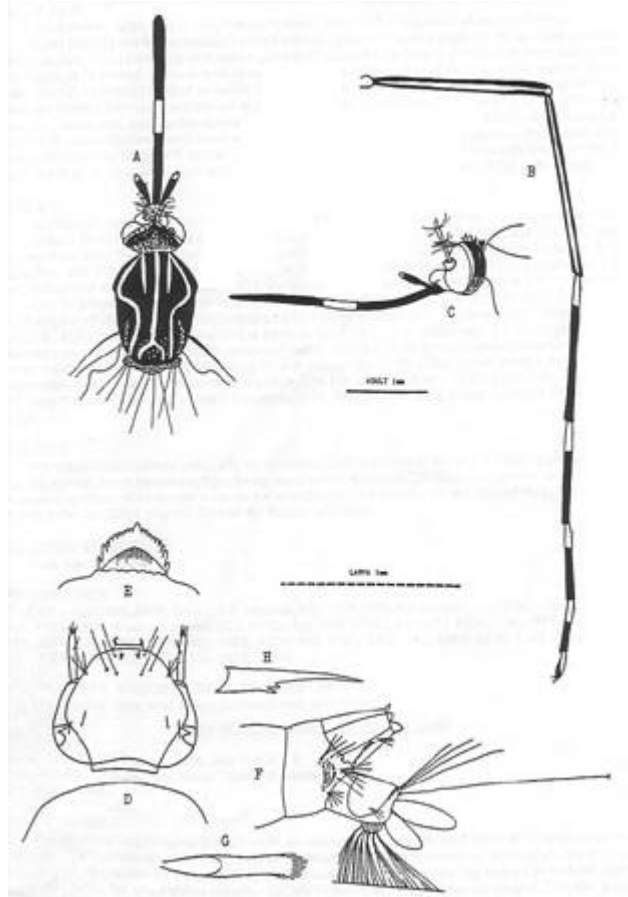
Biology

Adults of *Culex annulirostris* are generalist feeders, attacking a wide variety of mammals and birds. Man is readily bitten, occasionally in the day but predominantly in the evening, just after sunset. This species is the most common and widely distributed pest species in Australia, generally a non-domestic species, though it has been widely collected from domestic container habitats in northern areas.

Adults may be collected throughout the year in northern areas, with maximum populations in the late dry season (July to October). In southern areas, the species may be captured at any time of the year, but it is very scarce in the winter.

Relation to Disease

Culex annulirostris is the major vector of arboviral diseases in Australia. It is implicated as the dominant vector during epidemics of Australian Encephalitis and Epidemic Polyarthrititis. Other arboviruses have been isolated from this species in WA and Australia, and are a major vector of dog heart worm throughout Australia.



Adult head and thorax (dorsal); B: Hindleg; C: Head (lateral); D: Larval head (dorsal); E: Mentum; F: Abdominal segment VIII (lateral); G: Lateral comb scale (detail); H: Pecten tooth (detail).

Aedes (Finlaya) notoscriptus

Biology

This species breeds in a variety of natural tree hole and rock hole sites, generally with some rotting vegetation, and has successfully moved into the urban habitat, colonising a number of artificial container habitats (e.g. gutters, discarded containers, pot plant bases, rainwater tanks). The adults will bite man throughout the day, with a peak in biting at dusk. The species will utilise a variety of mammals and birds as blood meal sources.

Relation to Disease

This species has been investigated as a potential vector of a number of arboviruses, but has proven to be a poor vector under experimental conditions.