

## GLOSSARY

(some definitions apply only to species in British Columbia)

- Abdomen*—the posterior of three main body divisions, composed of 10 segments, 8 of which are visible in adult mosquitoes.
- Acus* (pl. aci)—a small sclerite, at or near base of saddle or siphon of some larvae.
- Aedine*—belonging to the genus *Aedes*.
- Anal papillae*—translucent tubular appendages, that maintain correct salt and water balance, on anal segment of larva (Fig. 6).
- Anal vein* (abbr. A)—posterior vein of wing (Fig. 10).
- Anopheline*—belonging to the genus *Anopheles*.
- Antennae*—paired segmented sensory organs at front of head.
- Apex* (adj. apical)—at or near the tip, or an area far from the centre—opp. basal.
- Appressed*—flattened close to surface.
- Autogeny*—ability in an adult female to produce eggs without a blood meal.
- Band*—running transversely or encircling a segment, usually applied to colour pattern—opp. longitudinal stripe.
- Basal*—close to base or centre of body—opp. apical.
- Benthic*—at the bottom of a body of water.
- Biotic area*—an area characterized by a number of particular plants and animals.
- Borrow pits*—dug-out farm ponds.
- C.E.*—California encephalitis, a viral disease.
- Cercus* (pl. cerci)—paired processes at apex of abdomen of adult females, projecting in aedines (Table I).
- Clypeal setae*—on an anterior sclerite of head, used to distinguish anopheline larvae (Fig. 16).
- Comb, comb scales*—a patch of spiny scales on abdominal segment VIII, in culicine larvae (Fig. 6).
- Costa* (abbr. C)—thickened anterior margin of wing (Fig. 10).
- Coxa*—basal segment of leg (Fig. 11).
- Cratis*—sclerotised area on anal segment of larva, supporting swimming setae (Fig. 6).
- Cubitus* (abbr. Cu)—vein of wing (Fig. 10).
- Culicine*—belonging to the tribe Culicini.

*Cuticle*—non-cellular outer covering of insect, pale and flexible unless sclerotised.

*Cytoplasm* (adj.—plasmic)—living contents of a cell, not including nucleus.

*Diapause*—a period when egg or larval development is arrested, enabling a species to survive the winter.

*Distal*—same as apical.

*Egg raft*—a tightly packed cluster of vertically oriented eggs that floats on the surface of water (Table I).

*Encephalitis*—a disease of the nervous system caused by an insect-borne virus.

*Epimeron and episternum*—areas on pleuron (side of adult thorax) that are subdivided into several small sclerites, e.g. mesepimeron, katapisternum, etc. (Fig. 7).

*Femur*—third and thickest segment of leg (Fig. 11).

*Generation*—complete cycle of egg, larva, pupa, adult.

*Genitalia*—external reproductive appendages.

*Genus* (pl. genera)—a group of species having one or more major characters in common.

*Gonocoxite*—lateral arm of male genitalia (Fig. 13).

*Holarctic*—distributed in both North America and Eurasia.

*Hydrophobic*—water repellent.

*Hypostigmal area*—region below mesothoracic spiracle (Fig. 7).

*Instar*—one stage in the growth of a larva, separated from other stages by a moult.

*Larva*—major stage in life cycle, between egg and pupa (Table I).

*Lateral stripe*—a line of darker scales along edge of scutum in some aedines (Fig. 9).

*Media* (abbr. M)—vein of wing (Fig. 10).

*Median*—at or near middle—opp. lateral.

*Mesothorax*—middle thoracic segment; mes(o)—pertaining to mesothorax, e.g. mesonotum.

*Metathorax*—hind thoracic segment; met(a)—pertaining to metathorax, e.g. metepimeron.

*Moult*—to cast old skin before entering a new stage.

*Multivoltine*—capable of having more than one generation a year.

*Notum*—dorsal region of thorax.

*Occiput*—rear of head (Fig. 7).

- Oviposit*—deposit eggs.
- Palmate setae*—fan-shaped setae on abdomen of anopheline larvae (Fig. 17).
- Palp(s)*—paired sensory appendages on either side of proboscis, long in males and in female anophelines (Fig. 7).
- Pecten, pecten teeth*—a row of thorn-like spines on either side of siphon (Fig. 6).
- Pedicel*—enlarged segment near base of adult antenna (Fig. 7).
- Phytoplankton*—microscopic aquatic plants.
- Pleuron* (pl. pleura)—side of thorax.
- Postprocoxal membrane*—connects front coxa to katepisternum (Fig. 7), bearing scales in some species.
- Proboscis*—elongate tubular mouthparts of adult.
- Prothorax*—anterior thoracic segment; pro- pertaining to prothorax, e. g. procoxal.
- Pupa* (verb, to pupate)—third stage of life cycle, between larva and adult (Table I).
- Radius* (abbr. R)—vein of wing (Fig. 10).
- Rafts*—see egg rafts.
- Saddle*—sclerite on anal segment of larva (Fig. 6).
- Scale*—a small flattened seta with a microscopic socket.
- Sclerite* (adj. sclerotised)—a thickened, fairly rigid region of cuticle, bounded by sutures or membranous areas.
- Scutellum*—curved sclerite behind scutum (Fig. 9).
- Scutum*—largest dorsal part of adult thorax (Fig. 7).
- Segment*—a subdivision of the body or of an appendage.
- Seta* (pl. setae)—a hair-like or bristle-like outgrowth, arising from a socket.
- Sibling species*—closely related species that could potentially interbreed but are usually reproductively isolated.
- Siphon*—posterior respiratory tube of larva (Fig. 6).
- SLE*—St. Louis encephalitis, a viral disease.
- Species*—a population of similar individuals that breed among themselves, but not with other populations.
- Spicule*—a minute pointed spine.
- Spine*—pointed conical outgrowth of cuticle, without a socket.
- Spiracle(s)*—external paired openings in cuticle for exchange of gases with the tracheae (internal breathing tubes) (Fig. 7).

*Sternite*—sclerite of sternum or ventral region of abdominal segment.  
*Synonym*—a name that was, or is still, incorrectly, used for a species.  
*Tarsus*—apical 5 segments (tarsomeres) of leg, bearing terminal claws (Fig. 11).  
*Taxonomic*—pertaining to classification.  
*Tergite*—sclerite of tergum or dorsal portion of abdominal segment.  
*Terminalia*—euphemism for genitalia.  
*Tibia*—fourth segment of leg, between femur and tarsus.  
*Treehole mosquito*—a species that develops in water-filled rot cavities of trees.  
*Univoltine*—having only one generation a year.  
*Vertex*—top of head (Fig. 7).  
*Ventral brush*—a row of long swimming setae on anal segment of larva (Fig. 6).  
*Vector*—transmitter of disease.  
*WEE*—Western equine encephalitis, a viral disease.

# The Mosquitoes of British Columbia

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