



Description of the fourth-stage larva and pupa of *Stegomyia edwardsi* Barraud (Diptera: Culicidae)

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Abstract

The fourth-stage larva and pupa of *Stegomyia edwardsi* (Barraud) are described and illustrated for the first time.

Key words: *Stegomyia edwardsi*, *Aedes*, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India

Introduction

The male and female of *Stegomyia edwardsi* were originally described as a species of *Aedes* (*Stegomyia*) by Barraud (1923) from the Andaman Islands, India. This species was assigned to Group B (*w-albus* group) by Edwards (1932). However, Belkin (1962) removed *edwardsi* from Group B and defined a new group (*edwardsi* group) and included three species, i.e., *edwardsi* (Barraud) from Southeast Asia, and *tulagiensis* Edwards and *robinsoni* Belkin from the South Pacific. Huang (1977), while reviewing subgenus *Stegomyia* of Southeast Asia, included a fourth species, *seampi* Huang and redescribed and illustrated all known stages of species of the *edwardsi* group. However, the larval and pupal stages of *edwardsi* remained undescribed. Reinert *et al.* (2004) reviewed tribe Aedini, and elevated the subgenus *Stegomyia* to generic status, based on phylogenetic analyses of morphological characters of all life stages; hence, *edwardsi* is therefore referred as *St. edwardsi* in this paper. Descriptions of the fourth-stage larva and pupa of this species are presented here with illustrations. Nomenclature and chaetotaxy used follow Harbach & Knight (1980, 1982), Reinert & Harbach (2005). In descriptions of the immatures, the ranges of setal branching are followed by the mode in parentheses. Larval and pupal exuviae were mounted on slides using Hoyer's medium.

Description

Larva (Fig. 1). Chaetotaxy as figured and recorded in Table 1 (n=82). **Head:** Heavily pigmented; seta 4-C with 11–17 (12) branches, closer to 6-C than 5-C, cephalad and mesad of 6-C; 5-C long, barbed, single; 7-C barbed with 2–4 (3) branches; 10-C barbed with 2–6 (4) branches; 11-C barbed with 9–16 (11) branches; 12-C barbed with 2–8 (5) branches; 14-C barbed with 9–15 (15) branches; 15-C barbed with 2 or 3 (2) branches; 6-Mx barbed with 14–24 (14) branches; dorsomentum with 9–13 (10) teeth on either side of 4 medium tooth. **Antenna:** 0.38–0.45 (mean=0.41) length of head; seta 1-A single, spinelike, inserted about 0.53 from base of shaft; 2-6-A single, inserted at or near apex.