Simple Key to Some Common Georgia Mosquitoes

This key is for female mosquitoes only. Male mosquitoes can be distinguished from females by their extremely bushy antenna (see pictures). The genitalia at the end of the male abdomen look like ice tongs.

1A. Palpi long & broad; proboscis stout & curved downward__________Toxorhynchites spp
1B. Tuft of hairs on postnotum; top of abdomen dark, bottom white_________Wyeomyia spp
1C. Small mosquito with bluish iridescent scales_______________________Uranotaenia spp
1D. Palpi as long as proboscis________________________________________2
1E. Palpi short______________________________________________________3

2A. Wings with yellow and dark patches______________________________Anopheles punctipennis
2B. Wings with yellow and dark patches, palpi white at tips___________Anopheles crucians
2C. Wings with dark patches only; palpi dark at tips_______________Anopheles quadrimaculatus
2D. Wings with dark patches only; palpi white at tips_________________Anopheles walkeri
2E. None of the above______________________________________________Anopheles spp

3A. Abdomen bluntly rounded at tip (see pictures)____________________4
3B. Abdomen pointed at tip (see pictures)____________________________5

4A. Delicate lines on scutum; hind tarsi banded across the joints________Orthopodomyia spp
4B. Hind tarsi banded across joints; scutum without lines________________Culex tarsalis
4C. Proboscis with white band; banding on hind tibia (see pictures)_Coquillettida perturbans
4D. Scales on dorsal surface of wing very broad_______________________Mansonia spp
4E. Antennae much longer than proboscis____________________________Deinocerites spp
4F. Proboscis & legs without bands; generally dark to light brown in color__________6

5A. Dorsal segments of abdomen with pale scales apically, or if absent, hind tibia with long, erect scales.................................................................Psorophora spp
5B. Dorsal segments with pale scales basally, hind tibia never with long, erect scales......................................................................................Aedes or Ochlerotatus spp

6A. Row of bristles on underside of wing near body; wing with cross-vein nearly in a line, prespiracular bristles present; proboscis long and thin...............................Culiseta spp
6B. No bristles on underside of wing; no spiracular bristles; wings with cross-vein separated by their own length.................................................................Culex spp
Psorophora spp
1A. Salt & pepper wing pattern; narrow, pale subapical band on hindleg...........................................2
1B. Wings mostly dark; no subapical band on hindleg.................................................................3

2A. Hindlegs with pale bands..............................................................................................................Ps columbiae
2B. Hindlegs mostly pale; wings with definite pattern.................................................................Ps discolor

3A. Long, erect scales on hindleg; last segment of leg is not entirely white.................................4
3B. No long, erect scales on hindleg, or if scales are long, end of leg is entirely white..............5

4A. Very long leg scales; stripe of narrow golden scales down middle of the scutum; proboscis yellow-scaled........................................................................................................Ps ciliata
4B. Proboscis dark-scaled; middle of scutum dark scaled.........................................................Ps howardii

5A. Hindlegs dark; dorsal patches of golden scales on abdomen.................................Ps cyanescens
5B. Hindlegs with some pale scales..........................................................................................6

6A. Only the 2\textsuperscript{nd}-last hindleg segment (hindtarsomere 4) is white; other segments are dark........................................................Ps mathesoni
6B. Two or three segments at end of hindleg are white..............................................................7

7A. No pattern on scutum........................................................................................................Ps ferox
7B. Sides of scutum pale scaled................................................................................................Ps horrida
**Aedes or Ochlerotatus spp**

1A. Hindlegs with pale bands...........................................................................................................................................2
1B. Hindlegs with no bands..................................................................................................................................................3

2A. Bands on hindlegs at top of segment .................................................................................................................................4
2B. Bands on hindlegs cross joint ..............................................................................................................................................5

3A. Silvery-white scales on sides of thorax; end of abdomen compressed laterally (like a flea).................................................................Oc. triseriatus (LAC vector)
3B. End of abdomen not flattened .............................................................................................................................................Ochlerotatus spp

4A. Proboscis with white band............................................................................................................................saltmarsh Ochlerotatus spp
4B. Proboscis with no white band.............................................................................................................................................6

5A. Hindlegs with broad bands across the joints; last leg segment pale; thorax golden brown.............................................................Oc canadensis
5B. Hindlegs with narrow bands across joints, last leg segment dark.................Ochlerotatus spp

6A. Scutum with single narrow strip of white scale; white stripe down back of head, ends of palps white; broad bands on hind legs...........................................................................................................Ae albopictus
6B. Narrow stripe on hind legs; B-shaped pale bands on abdomen..................Ae vexans
Culex erraticus:
1. Several rows of broad flat scales on head behind eyes
2. Sides of thorax very dark brown
3. End of abdomen generally squared
4. Small mosquito

Culex nigripalpus:
1. Abdomen and legs very dark
2. Narrow bands on sides of the last few segments of the abdomen

Culex quinquefasciatus:
1. Light-brown color
2. Coarse scales on thorax
3. Pale bands on abdomen are half-moon shape

Culex restuans:
1. Somewhat reddish-brown in color
2. Smaller, smoother scales on thorax
3. Pale bands on abdomen narrow and straight
4. Two small pale dots on scutum

Culex salinarius:
1. Somewhat yellowish in color
2. Very narrow pale bands on abdomen
3. Last one or two segments of abdomen yellowish-white