

First Record of *Stegomyia albopicta* [*Aedes albopictus*] in Belize

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Resumen. El 6 de Agosto del 2009 se confirmó el primer registro de *Stegomyia albopicta* (Skuse) [*Aedes albopictus* (Skuse)] en Belice, en Benque Viejo del Carmen, Distrito Del Cayo, los especímenes se colectaron posándose sobre humanos.

Abstract. The first confirmed record of *Stegomyia albopicta* (Skuse) [*Aedes albopictus* (Skuse)] for Belize was made at Benque Viejo del Carmen, District Del Cayo, from a mosquito landing on a human on 6 August 2009.

Because of more cases of dengue fever in recent years in Belize and as a part of a bilateral program between Mexico and Belize for control of diseases transmitted by vectors, we sent a sanitary brigade from Quintana Roo State of Mexico to Belize, to conduct dengue prevention and control from 28 July-12 August 2009. To determine the abundance of *Stegomyia* [*Aedes*] *aegypti* (Linnaeus), we put ovitraps at different sites in Belize. On 6 August 2009, when we checked intradomestic ovitraps in Benque Viejo del Carmen, District Del Cayo (17° 4' 23.07" N, 89° 8' 20.42" W) we collected *St. albopicta* (Skuse) [*Ae. albopictus* (Skuse)] female adults that had landed on humans (Fig. 1). The specimens were transported to Quintana Roo State Laboratory of Health Services, Chetumal, Quintana Roo, Mexico, and were identified by G. Canul-Amaro, P. Mis-Avila, M. Domínguez-Galera, and A. Ortega-Morales who used the Darsie and Ward (2005) keys. This is the first record of this species in Belize. The specimens were collected together with *St.* [*Ae.*] *aegypti*. All specimens were deposited in the Collection of Arthropods of Instituto Nacional de Ecología QRM.IN.017.0497 of South Border Museum College, Chetumal Unit (ECOSUR), Chetumal, Quintana Roo, Mexico. The nomenclature proposed by Reinert, Harbach and Kitching (2006) is used here, with the traditional nomenclature in parenthesis.

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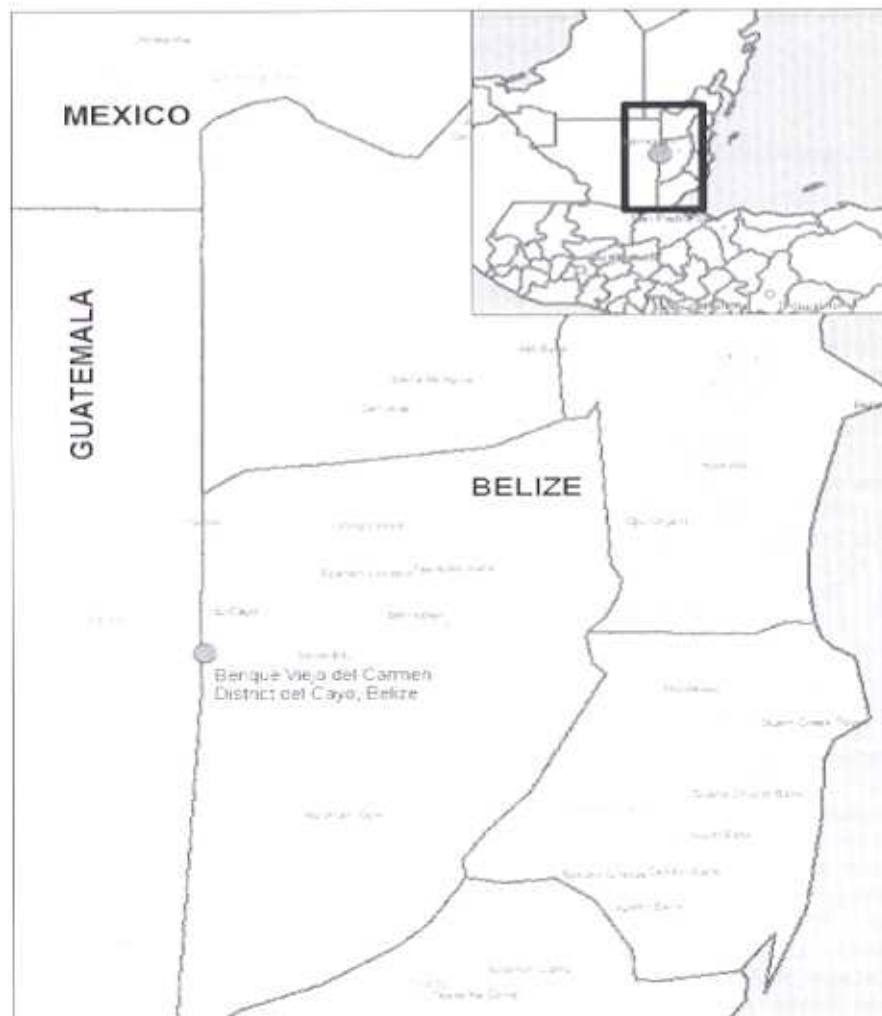


Fig. 1. Map of Belize showing the site where *Stegomyia albopicta* (Skuse) [*Aedes albopictus* (Skuse)] was collected

References Cited

- Darsie, R. F. Jr., and R. A. Ward. 2005. Identification and geographical distribution of the mosquitoes of North America, north of Mexico. University Press of Florida, Gainesville, FL.
- Reinert, J. F., R. E. Harbach, and I. J. Kitching. 2006. Phylogeny and classification of *Finlaya* and allied taxa (Diptera: Culicidae: Aedini) based on morphological data from all life stages. Zool. J. Linn. Soc. 148: 1-101.