

Anopheles claviger s.s.



Anopheles claviger s.s., as well as its sibling species *Anopheles petragrani*, are members of the Claviger Complex. These two species differ in their morphology (egg, larval and pupal), behaviour (larval and adult) and in their distribution. *An. claviger* s.s. occurs across most of Europe, up to the Middle East and North Africa, whereas *An. petragrani* is so far restricted to the western Mediterranean region. Although its epidemiological importance is not significant due to its small population, *An. claviger* was known in the twenty century as a malaria vector in the eastern Mediterranean region.



Distribution around the Mediterranean Basin / *Anopheles claviger* s.s. is a Palaearctic species that is distributed all over Europe, the Middle East and North Africa.



Distribution of *An. claviger* - 2017 / MosKeyTool



Vector surveillance /
No surveillance at European level.

Vector control /

- > Source reduction: elimination of stagnant water that is propitious for larvae
- > Spraying of chemical or organic pesticides
- > Use of repellents to reduce bites

Transmission /

Potential vector of:

Human malaria parasites

(*Plasmodium vivax* and experimentally for *Plasmodium falciparum*)



References, tools /

Mosquitoes and Their Control, 2nd ed. Norbert Becker, Dusan Petric, Marija Zgomba, Clive Boase, Madon Minoo, Christine Dahl, Achim Kaiser, Springer, 2010.

Morphological description /



Body length / 7 mm

Longevity as a biting insect / 3 weeks

Biting behaviour / Exophilic species ; the adult females do not readily enter houses, but bite in the open, outside villages.



Habitats / Wide variety of breeding sites, but shows a preference for unpolluted, semipermanent and permanent water bodies. In the Mediterranean region, it is frequently found in wells and water containers.

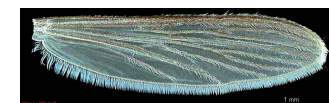
Host preference / Zoophilic species ; its preferred hosts are domestic mammals but humans may constitute a second choice.

Easily confused species

An. plumbeus could be distinguished from *An. claviger* by its smaller size, darker coloration, lightly whorled antenna and more densely scaled wings.



Anopheles plumbeus



Pale patch on the apical end.

Anopheles marteri



Antepalpal setae 2-IV and 2-V on abdominal segments with 2-3 branches, with one of the middle branch shorter (3-5 branches of the same length with *An. claviger*).

Anopheles petragrani (4th larval stage)