



**NEW ZEALAND BIOSECURE**  
Entomology Laboratory



*Aedes (Ochlerotatus) subalbirostris* Klein and Marks,  
1960

No common name

**NZ Status: Endemic**



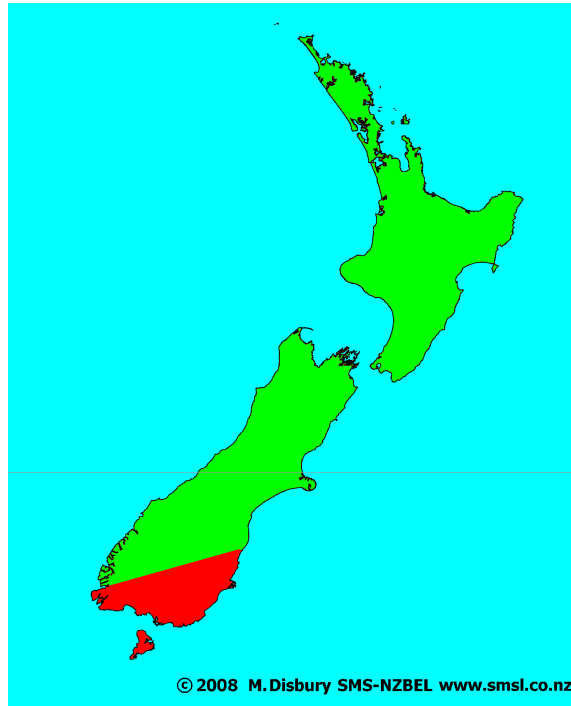
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#### Vector and Pest Status

The vector status of *Aedes subalbirostris* is not currently known. It may bite humans, there have been a couple of unverified reports, and appears to be attracted to livestock but has not been recorded biting them (Holder, *et al.* 1999).

#### Geographic Distribution

*Ae. subalbirostris* is an endemic species first collected by W. Wesche in Invercargill in 1906 (Dumbleton, 1963). It is only known to be present on the southeast coast of the South Island (Pillai, 1966) including Otago, Southland, Invercargill (Marks & Nye, 1963) and also Stewart Island (Belkin, 1968).



NB. This map denotes the general areas where this species has been recorded, not actual distribution

### Incursions and Interceptions

*Aedes subalbirostris* has not been intercepted at New Zealand's borders.

### Taxonomy

Originally described and named *Aedes albirostris* by Edwards in 1924, it was renamed *Ae. subalbirostris* and further described in 1960 by Klein and Marks. It belongs to the subgenus *Ochlerotatus* and was moved to the genus *Ochlerotatus* when it was elevated by Reinert (2000) and Reinert *et al.* (2004). Controversy with the name change has seen all species placed back into the genus *Aedes*, pending further research.

Within New Zealand, the subgenus *Ochlerotatus* contains two members, *Ae. antipodeus* and *Ae. subalbirostris* (Marks and Nye, 1963). Adult females of *Ae. subalbirostris* can be distinguished from *Ae. antipodeus* by having a mottled femora (Klein & Marks, 1960), a proboscis with extensive pale scaling especially on the basal three quarters (Belkin, 1968), and a mainly golden scaled scutum, lacking longitudinal lines along the thorax (Marks and Nye, 1963).

Although the larvae of both members of subgenus *Ochlerotatus* share many features in common (Nye & McGregor, 1964), *Ae. subalbirostris* larvae may be easily separated from *Ae. antipodeus* by their separated row of pecten teeth (Marks & Nye, 1963).

### Habits and Habitat

*Aedes subalbirostris* like *Ae. antipodeus*, breeds in winter in freshwater ground pools (Pillai, 1966; Belkin, 1968). In most instances, larvae are found sharing the same pools as *Ae. antipodeus* (Marks & Nye, 1963; Belkin, 1968). Occasionally larvae have been found in roadside and field drainage ditches (Marks & Nye, 1963) and once in a horse drinking trough (Belkin, 1968).

Adults are attracted to and may bite humans but have only been trapped and recorded in low numbers (Belkin, 1968) suggesting they are not likely to be a pest. Dispersal habits are unknown.

### References

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