

Table 2 Principal component analysis: contribution of 37 variables to the first three principal components calculated from 214 females *An. arabiensis*. Relative percentages of explained variance for component 1, 2 and 3 are 68.4%, 14.2% and 9.6%, respectively. The coefficients are sorted by decreasing magnitude of component 1.

| Character | Component | | |
|--|-------------|-------|-------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Mid leg length | .895 | .257 | -.357 |
| Hind leg length | .886 | -.453 | .095 |
| Wing length excluding the fringe | .774 | .299 | .055 |
| Wing width excluding the fringe | .698 | .252 | -.008 |
| Fore leg length | .696 | .457 | .544 |
| Length of palpal segment III | .658 | .242 | .049 |
| Antenna flagellum length | .637 | .209 | -.031 |
| Length of palpal segment IV | .619 | .206 | .033 |
| Median dark spot | .597 | .228 | .086 |
| Pre-sector dark spot | .528 | .253 | .022 |
| Length of palpal segment V | .527 | .162 | .064 |
| Length of apical pale band on palpus | .487 | .102 | -.011 |
| Palpal length | .432 | .223 | .057 |
| Length of palpal segment II | .418 | .246 | .053 |
| Sub-apical pale spot | .391 | .146 | -.017 |
| Sub-costal pale spot | .316 | -.026 | -.062 |
| Apical pale spot | .263 | .073 | .029 |
| Pale band at the joint of tarsomeres 1&2 of the hind leg | .262 | .044 | -.147 |
| Pre-apical dark spot | .249 | .098 | -.019 |
| Humeral pale spot | .247 | .077 | .063 |
| Pale band at the joint of tarsomeres 2&3 of the hind leg | .188 | .121 | .033 |
| Pale band at the joint of tarsomeres 1&2 of the mid leg | .178 | .075 | -.012 |
| Apical dark spot | .174 | .132 | .021 |
| Pale interruption of third main dark area of 1st vein | .159 | .080 | -.008 |
| Pale band at the joint of tarsomeres 1&2 of the fore leg | .153 | .100 | -.022 |
| Length of basal pale band on palpus | .152 | .046 | .055 |
| Length of palpal segment I | .147 | .077 | -.083 |
| Pale band at the joint of tarsomeres 2&3 of the fore leg | .135 | .040 | .019 |
| Pale band at the joint of tarsomeres 3&4 of the fore leg | .129 | .043 | .112 |
| Palpal index | .125 | .027 | -.003 |
| Pale band at the joint of tarsomeres 3&4 of the mid leg | .124 | .072 | -.038 |
| Pre-sector pale spot | -.121 | -.084 | -.040 |
| Pale band at the joint of tarsomeres 3&4 of the hind leg | .113 | .083 | -.015 |
| Pale band at the joint of tarsomeres 2&3 of the mid leg | .108 | .083 | -.007 |
| Sector pale spot | .079 | -.075 | .026 |
| Accessory sector pale spot | .065 | -.018 | .000 |
| Length of median pale band on palpus | .057 | -.004 | -.087 |

Note: High loadings indicated in bold type