

1941

A Preliminary List of Pipunculidae (Diptera) of Iowa

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Recommended Citation

Brooks, Ivan C. and Jaques, H. E. (1941) "A Preliminary List of Pipunculidae (Diptera) of Iowa," *Proceedings of the Iowa Academy of Science*: Vol. 48: No. 1, Article 116.
Available at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/pias/vol48/iss1/116>

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A PRELIMINARY LIST OF PIPUNCULIDAE (DIPTERA) OF IOWA

IVAN C. BROOKS AND H. E. JAQUES

The big-headed flies, as these small insects are commonly called, are easily recognized by their very large, almost spherical head. They are small black flies four to five mm. long with wings two to three mm. longer than the abdomen. The basal cells are elongate; the anal cell reaches almost to the wing margin and is rarely incomplete. The apical cell is narrowed at the tip, but is never closed. There are three posterior cells with complete veination in all the genera except *Chalarus* Walker.

The head is wider than the thorax and composed chiefly of eyes. The eyes are contiguous above the antennae or almost so in the male. In the female they are separated by a narrow front, making the face narrow.

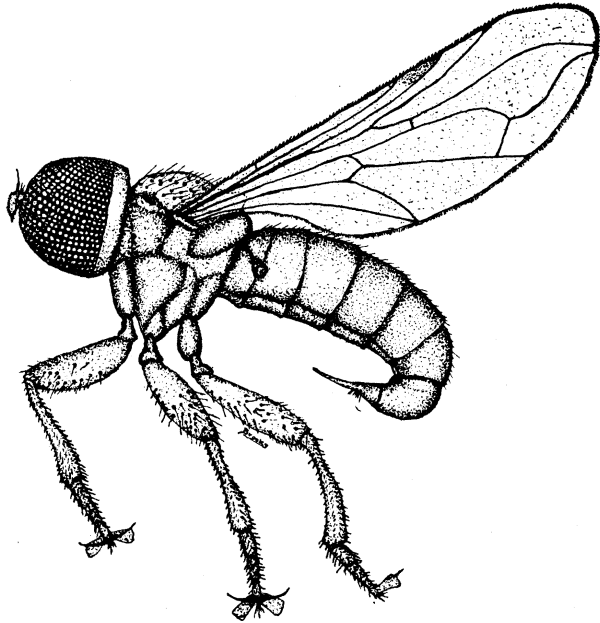
The antennae are small; three segmented. The third segment is oval, reiniform or aculate with a dorsal bare arista; ocelli present.

The abdomen is small and cylindrical with five segments in the male and six in the female. The hypopygium is conspicuous, often large; composed of five segments. The ovipositor is usually elongated and extends forward under the abdomen. The legs are simple with broad tarsi, the basal segment of which is elongated. Pulvilli present. Claws long and generally curved.

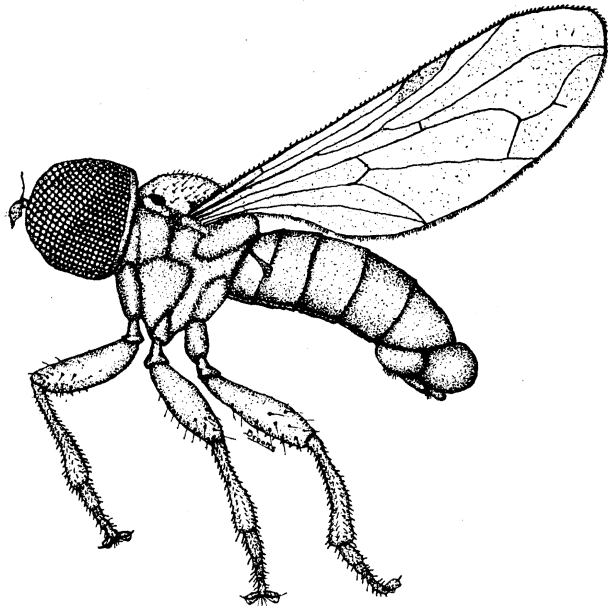
These flies are collected in low, damp, shady places generally near a body of water or river. Specimens of this family are found most abundantly during late summer, especially in July and August. However, specimens in the Iowa Survey Collection have been taken as early as April and as late as October. The Pipunculidae are seldom found in large numbers, at the best, but seem to be very sparingly distributed over the state.

The following list of species for Iowa is taken from the Iowa Insect Survey, which represents twenty some years of collecting over the state. Also, specimens collected by the authors over much of the state the summer of 1940.

1. *Dorilas ater* (Meig)
2. *Tomosvaryella wilburi* (Hardy)
3. *Tomosvaryella sylvatica* (Meig)
4. *Tomosvaryella coquilletti* (Kertess)



Dorilus ater (Meigen) ♀



Cephalosphaera sp. ♂

5. *Tomosvaryella subvirescens* (Loew)
6. *Dorilas* sp.
7. *Dorilas atlanticus* (Hough)
8. *Dorilas subopacus industrius* (Knab)
9. *Chalarus spurious* Fall
10. *Dorilas reipublicae* (Wlk.)
11. *Cephalosphaera* poss. n. sp.
12. *Pipunculus affinis* Cresson
13. *Pipunculus appendipes* Cresson
14. *Dorilas fuscus* (Loew)
15. *Dorilas caudatus discolor* Banks

Determinations or verifications made by Elmo Hardy of Kansas State University and for other interests shown in making this paper possible are gratefully acknowledged.

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