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A Preliminary List of the Neuroptera of Iowa

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A PRELIMINARY LIST OF THE NEUROPTERA OF
IOWA

H. E. JAKUES

The Neuroptera or nerve-winged insects represent one of the smaller orders of the great group of six legged animals. No persistent work has been done on this group, for Iowa. The species herein listed have been gotten through general collecting. The list may doubtless be more than doubled by giving special attention to the order. The list is published as a challenge to Iowa nature lovers to find the other species that are doubtless more or less common within our state.

The collecting and studying of insects offers one of the finest opportunities for wholesome recreation. The Neuroptera presents a group small enough that one might readily become acquainted with the entire order. Some of its species are so common that they are readily found; others are so rare as to provide a real thrill when secured. Some species have most peculiar habits or structures which greatly enhance their interest.

The Neuroptera are highly variable in size. The wings are proportionately large and leaf-like with many cross veins. At rest, the wings are held roof-like over the abdomen. The mouth parts are of the chewing type; metamorphosis is complete. Any general book on entomology will, of course, give some information about the order. The student who wishes to do intensive work on the Iowa species should find Roger C. Smith's "Notes on the Neuroptera and Mecoptera of Kansas, with Keys for the Identification of Species"¹ highly helpful.

The following list is made largely from specimens in the Iowa Survey collection. Species thus represented are marked (A). The determinations of most of the specimens have been made or checked by Roger C. Smith or Nathan Banks, to both of whom we wish to express our warmest appreciation for help on many occasions.

Dr. H. H. Knight has kindly contributed a list of eight species in the Iowa State College collection. These are indicated by (B).

The writer is anxious to enlarge this list for Iowa and would greatly appreciate any contribution of specimens or records for the Iowa Insect Survey.

¹ Journal Kan. Ent. Soc., Vol. VII, pp. 120-145.

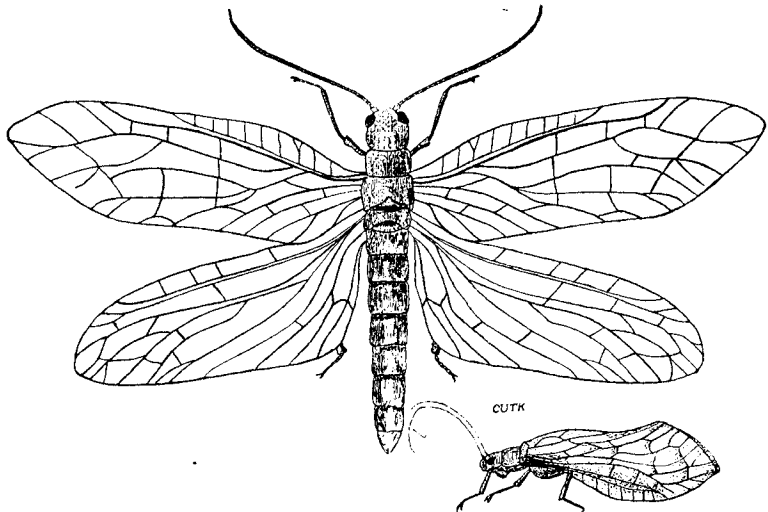


Figure 1. *Sialis infumata* Newm. (A)

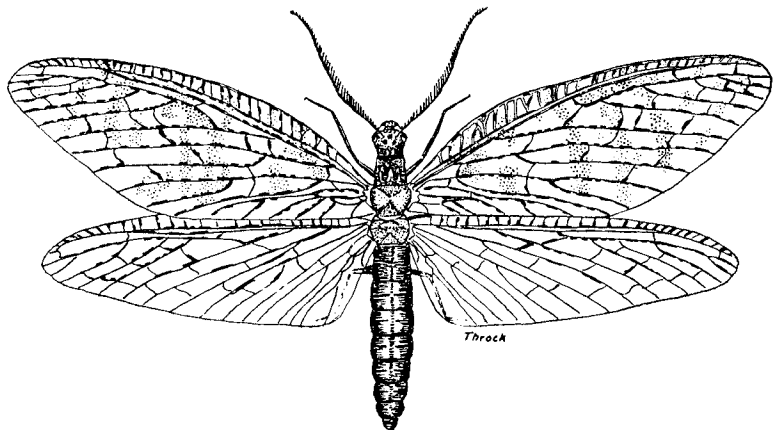


Figure 2. *Chauliodes rastricornis* Ramb.

Family SIALIDAE

Sialis infumata Newm. (A). See Figure 1.

Chauliodes rastricornis Ramb. (A). See Figure 2.

Corydalis cornuta L. (Our largest species) (A, B).

Family MANTISPIDAE

Mantispa brunnea Say (A, B).

Mantispa interrupta Say (A, B).

Family SYMPHEROBIIDAE

Psectra diptera Burm. (A).

Family HEMEROBIIDAE

Hemerobius castaneus Fitch (B).

- Hemerobius humuli* L. (A).
Hemerobius stigmaterus Fitch (A).
Micromus posticus Wlk. (A).
Micromus subanticus Wlk. (A).

Family CHRYSOPIDAE

- Eremochrysa punctinervis* (McLach) (A).
Chrysopa nigricornis Burm. (A, B).
Chrysopa oculata var. *oculata* Say (A, B).
Chrysopa oculata var. *chlorophana* Burm. (A).
Chrysopa oculata var. *separata* Banks (A).
Chrysopa oculata var. *carei* Smith (A).
Chrysopa oculata var. *bipunctata* Fitch (A).
Chrysopa oculata var. *illepida* Fitch (A).
Chrysopa oculata var. *albicornis* Fitch (A).
Chrysopa plorabunda var. *plorabunda* Fitch (A, B). (This is likely our most numerous Iowa Neuropteron.)
Chrysopa plorabunda var. *californica* Coq. (A).
Chrysopa harrisii Fitch (A).
Chrysopa majuscula Banks (A).
Chrysopa columbiana Banks (A).
Chrysopa rufilabris Burm. (A).
Chrysopa interrupta Burm. (A).

Family MYRMELEONTIDAE

- Dendroleon obsoletum* Say (A).
Hesperoleon longicaudus Burm. (B).
Hesperoleon abdominalis (Say) (A).

Family ASCALAPHIDAE

- Colobopterus quadrimaculatus* (Burm.) (A).

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