

Fishfly Larvae

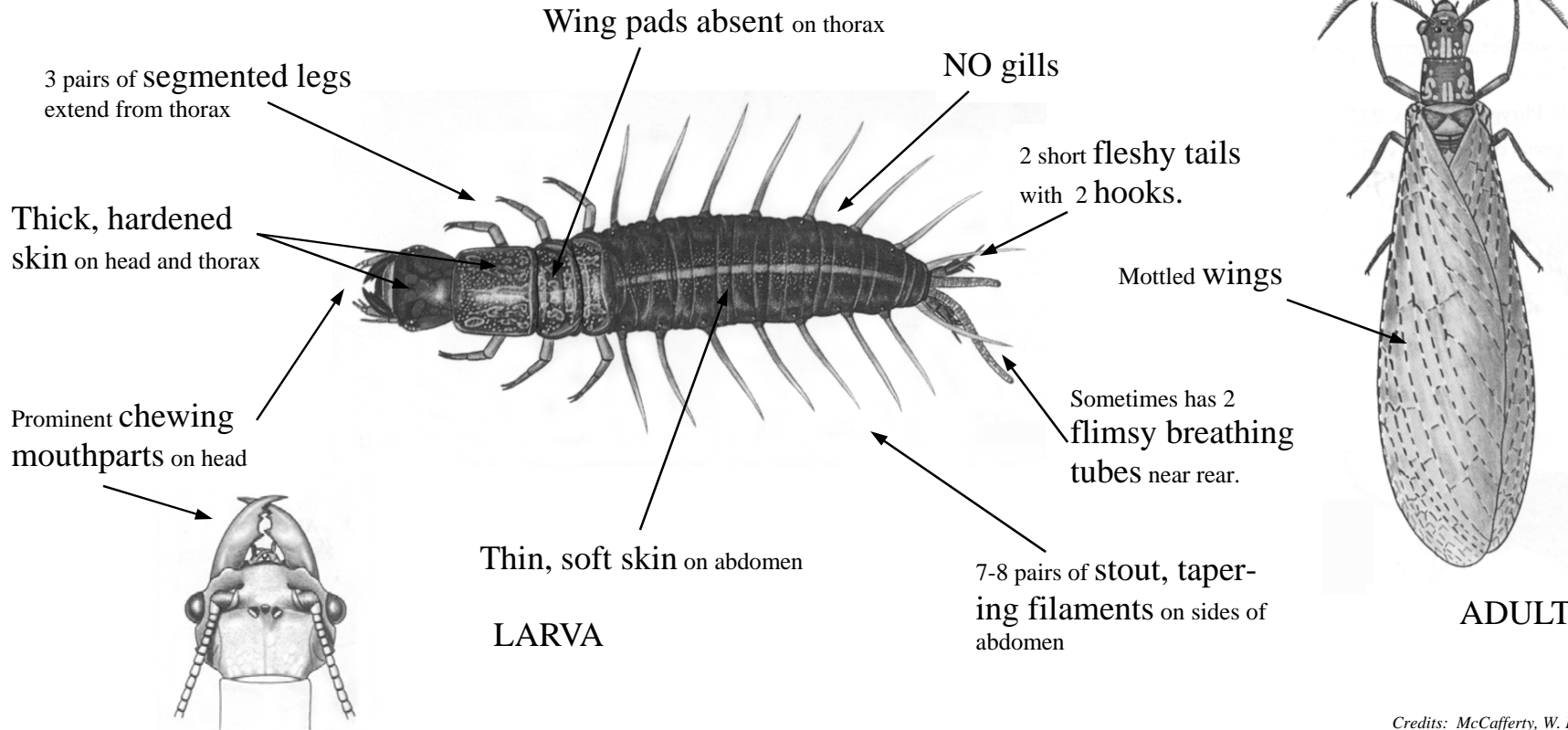
Order: Megaloptera Family: Corydalidae

Number of species in North America: 18



CREEK CONNECTIONS,
Allegheny College

Size: 25-90mm (larvae) / > 35mm (adult)



Credits: McCafferty, W. Patrick. Aquatic Entomology, 1981.

SIMILAR TO: dobsonfly (hellgrammite)

- Fishflies do not have abdominal gill tufts, while dobsonflies do.

Diet: Microscopic algae, small bits of organic matter, pieces of plants; a few eat other insects.

Food for: Game fish, predaceous water insects.

Habitat: Bottom dwellers; flowing waters (streams and rivers), ponds and shallow lakes.

Movement: Swim, cling to rocks, some burrow.

Breathing: Through gills on abdomen.

Water Quality Indicator: Group II – indicate MODERATE water quality.

Life Cycle Corner

After crawling out of cell, adults live only a few days (females: 3 days/males: 8-10).

Complete metamorphosis

Dig cell in soil using jaws and legs.



Swim to shore, crawl out of water.

Eggs are deposited out of the water onto overhanging objects. This is performed at night.



Newly hatched larvae have a gas-bubble in their butts which enables larvae in this stage to float.

