

Insect Report

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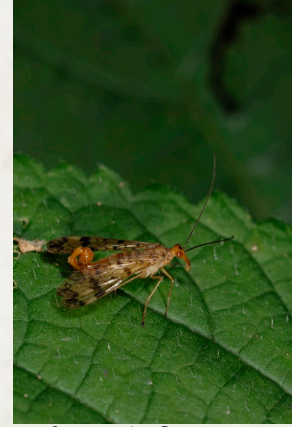
Scatophaga is a small genus of flies that eat (phagos) feces (scatos). Males and females copulate upon fresh scat and the female lays her eggs immediately. Larvae feed on the dung; adults prey on smaller flies. *Scatophaga* sp. probably *S. stercoraria*, the Yellow Dung Fly and most common species worldwide

(click on image to enlarge)



A male and female 'Dagger Crane Fly', *Tipula caloptera*, mating in the underbrush at Newport Forest. My proposed common name is borrowed from the Dagger Moths which have a similar pattern of black "daggers" on their wings.

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The Scorpionfly, *Panorpa claripennis*, has a nasty-looking stinger curled over its abdomen, but it's actually the male genital organ.

Scorpionflies belong to the order Mecoptera, which includes other oddities such as the earwigfly (Rather rare insects, an earwigfly was found at Newport Forest in a malaise trap set up by Nina Zitani in the summer of '05) and hanging flies.

(click on image to enlarge)



Earwig Fly *Merope tuber* (two spp. worldwide)

(click on image to enlarge)



A greenish variant of the Vesper Bluet, *Enallagma vesperum*? Steve Marshall wasn't sure, although the genus was not in doubt. The Vesper Bluet is normally an ochre yellow everywhere this creature is light green. The species is uncommon in SW Ontario