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Some additional notes to Savage, A. A. (1999): "Key to the Larvae of British Corixidae"

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With 8 Figures and 1 Table

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Schlagwörter: Corixidae, Heteroptera, Insecta, Großbritannien, Niederlande, Bestimmung, Larve

Some additional features for identifying Corixidae larvae using the key of Savage (1999) are given.

1 Introduction

It is common knowledge that many species of waterbugs, in particular Corixidae, fly very often. Owing to this the adults are frequently found in water-types, where they do not mate. Results of identifying adults are in such cases not useful for interpret the list of species. For this reason it is more worthfull to identify the larvae. For example species like *Callicorixa praeusta*, *Sigara nigrolineata* and *Hesperocorixa sahlbergi* occur during summer in permanent waters, whereas they mate on other sites.

Larvae of Corixidae are often not identified because one thinks it is very difficult. This might be true for larvae in instar I, II or III. But larvae in instar IV and V (often III too) are easy to identify. The best key for this job is that of Savage (1999).

2 Notes to the key of Savage

The header of the pages do not always give the right information about the instar. Particularly the character of the abdominal pattern can be used the best in the first place to recognize some common species. Savage uses the character "fd" and "fpd", which give a lot of problems in identifying instar III and IV.

The larva of *Sigara iactans* is unknown. The female looks very like *Sigara falleni* (see Jansson 1986: 78). So, it seemsthat identifications of *S. distincta/falleni* should be *S. distincta/falleni/iactans*. For information about *S. iactans* see Jansson (1986) and Cuppen (1988).

Characters for instar III-V. For instar I and II see Savage (1999: 51).

Group A

Abdomen dorsally with significant pattern (Fig. 3 and 4) and pala very small and elongate (Fig. 1) *Cymatia*

Group B

Abdomen dorsally with significant pattern (Fig. 5) and pala broad (Fig. 2) see Table 1

Group C

Abdomen dorsally without a significant pattern; either with uniform pigmentation (Fig. 8) or with some vague pattern (Fig. 6 and 7). Be aware, sometimes *Hesperocorixa sahlbergi* (Fig. 6) have a darkened pattern, which however seldom occurs all other species

Start identifying with Savage, page 22.

Tab. 1: *Sigara*. Larvae with obvious pattern on abdomen dorsally. fem 3 = number of spines on femur 3 dorsally, tib 3 = number of spines on tibia 3 dorsally, LA = length in mm, body without head. For the position of spines see Fig. A (below)

species	instar V			instar IV			instar III		
	fem 3	tib 3	LA	fem 3	tib 3	LA	fem 3	tib 3	LA
<i>striata</i>	3-6-(7)	5-6-(7)	4,7- 5,2	3-6-(7)	5-6-(7)	?	3-6-(7)	5-6-(7)	?
<i>fossarum/scotti</i>	(6)-7-12	(7)-8-12	<4,4	(6)-7-12	(7)-8-12	<3,3	(6)-7-12	(7)-8-12	<2,3
<i>distincta/falleni</i>	(6)-7-12	(7)-8-12	>4,7	(6)-7-12	(7)-8-12	>3,5	(6)-7-12	(7)-8-12	>2,5



Fig. A: *Sigara striata*, spines on femur and tibia of third leg (fem 3) dorsally; from Cobben (1960)

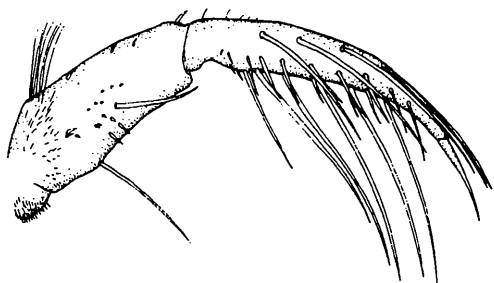


Fig. 1: Cymatiinae, pala; from Savage (1999)

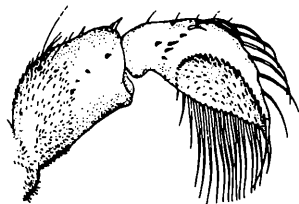


Fig. 2: Corixinae, pala; from Savage (1999)

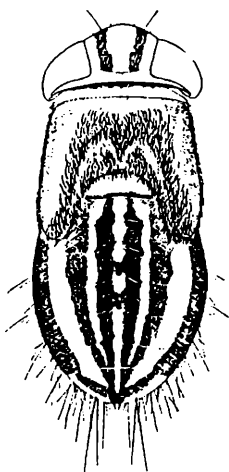


Fig. 3: *Cymatia coleoptrata*, abdomen dorsally; from Cobben (1960)

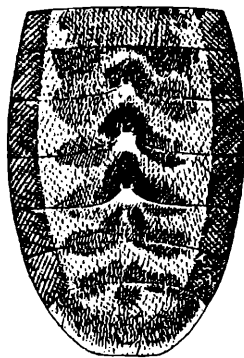


Fig. 4: *Cymatia bonsdorffi*, abdomen dorsally; from Cobben, (1960)

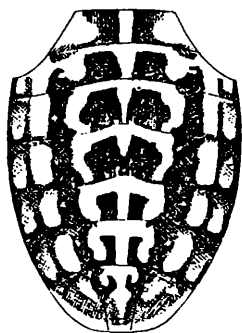


Fig. 5: *Sigara striata*, abdomen dorsally; from Cobben (1960)

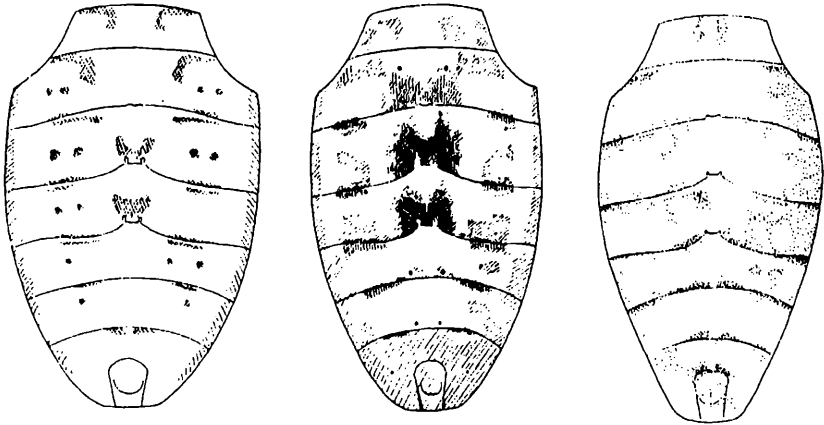


Fig. 6: *Hesperocorixa* **Fig. 7:** *Sigara ?semistriata*, **Fig. 8:** *Arctocorisa ger-*
sahlbergi, abdomen dor- *abdomen dorsally*; from *mari*, abdomen dorsally;
sally; from Cobben (1960) Cobben (1960) from Cobben (1960)

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