

Atelestidae

Jean-Paul Haenni (1998 Checklist: Bernhard Merz)

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Diagnosis: Minute to small (1.5-3.5 mm) empidoid flies. Mouthparts short, directed forward, antenna with third segment bearing an elongate apical arista, wing with pterostigma present, unbranched R_{4+5} , discal cell present (*Meghyperus*) or absent (*Atelestus*), alula and large anal lobe present.

Biology: Little is known of the life-habits of Atelestidae. Adults are found in wooded areas, more often near water. The immature stages are unknown.

Nomenclature and classification: The family was erected for including the species of the two genera *Atelestus* and *Meghyperus* (Chvála, 1983) previously placed in Empididae. For its separation from other groups of Empidoidea, see identification key in Sinclair & Cumming (2006) who included the unplaced genus *Nemedina* in Atelestidae (Sinclair & Cumming 2006).

Number of species: CH: 3 (1998 Checklist: 2),
BE: 2, CZ: 3, DE: 3, GB: 2, NL: 3, SK: 3, Europe: 6, World: 13.

Level of faunistic knowledge in Switzerland: Good; the occurrence of additional species might however be possible.

General references: Carles-Tolrá (2008) [key], Chvála (1983) [general, key], Chvála (1989) [catalogue; Palaearctic species], Grootaert & Kahanpää (2023) [key], Kanalová et al. (2020) [key], Sinclair & Cumming (2006) [general, key].

References to the Swiss fauna: Bächli et al. (2014), Merz (1998a, 1998b, 2012).

Checklist

Atelestus Walker, 1837

- *dissonans* Collin, 1961 !

- *pulicarius* (Fallén, 1816) !

Meghyperus Loew, 1850

- *sudeticus* Loew, 1850 !

References

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