

Athericidae

Jean-Paul Haenni (1998 Checklist: Bernhard Merz)

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Diagnosis: Medium sized (7-10 mm), rather strongly built, dark coloured flies. Eyes nearly holoptic in males, widely separated in females, antenna 3-segmented with basal flagellomere reniform and elongate subapical arista; mouth-parts strong, somewhat elongate, directed forward. Thorax broad, wings with more or less visible dark pattern, discal cell present. Legs elongate, with two apical spurs on hind tibia. Larvae apneustic (without functional spiracles), body tapered anteriorly, head retractable in thorax, abdominal segments with 6-7 pairs of prolegs and fleshy pairs of dorsal projections, anal segment with more or less elongate dorsal projections.

Biology: Adults can be found sitting on the vegetation or on rocks near running waters. Females of *Atrichops* are bloodsuckers. Eggs are laid over the water, on the overhanging branches of trees. Females of *Atherix* aggregate to oviposit in large clusters overhanging running water, that eventually contain masses of eggs and up to hundreds of dead females. Larvae are aquatic predators, feeding on larvae of aquatic insects. Pupation takes place in sand, gravel or mosses near stream margin.

Nomenclature and classification: According to Fauna Europaea (Rozkošný 2013).

Number of species: CH: 3 (1998 Checklist: 2),
CZ: 3, DE: 3, ES: 4, FI: 1, FR: 4, GB: 3, IT: 5, SK: 3, Europe: 10, World: ~120.

Level of faunistic knowledge in Switzerland: Good.

General references: Majer (1988) [catalogue, Palaearctic species], Rozkošný (2013) [Fauna Europaea database], Rozkošný & Nagatomi (1997) [general, key to genera], Stuckenberg (1973) [general].

References to the Swiss fauna: Bächli et al. (2014), Ducommun (1986), Keiser (1947), Merz (1998), Oertli (1995), Sartori et al. (2011).

Checklist

Atherix Meigen, 1803

- *ibis* (Fabricius, 1798) !

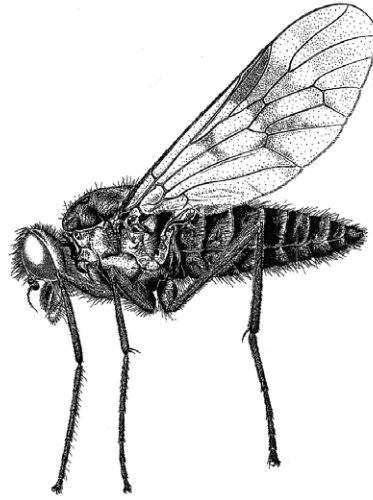
Atrichops Verrall, 1909

- *crassipes* (Meigen, 1820) !

Ibsisia Rondani, 1856

- *marginata* (Fabricius, 1781) !

= *Atherix marginata* (Fabricius, 1781)



Ibisia marginata,
male (CMPD2, p.440).

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