

## Fanniidae

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**Diagnosis:** The Fanniidae is a small family of the Muscoidea series of Calyptrate families. There are 408 described species, mostly from the Holarctic and temperate Neotropical regions, placed in five genera of which *Fannia* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830 is by far the most speciose. Adults can be recognised by the very short vein  $A_1$ , with vein  $A_2$  curved forward beyond the tip of  $A_1$ , and hind tibia with a true dorsal submedian seta aligned with the dorsal preapical seta. Males have the mid legs always modified in some way, with at least a mat of fine setulae along the ventral surface of the tibia. Females have the fronto-orbital plates broad, their inner margins convex, the lower orbital seta directed outwards, without proclinate orbital setae or crossed setae on the frontal vitta.

**Biology:** In the Holarctic region adult Fanniidae are generally woodland species and are rarely found in open or marshy environments. Males commonly indulge in characteristic aerial hovering and swarming, whilst females live in the ground vegetation among shrubs and flowers. Some species have developed a close association with man and his waste products (e.g. *Fannia canicularis*, *Fannia scalaris*, *Fannia leucosticta*). Larvae are saprophages and develop in many kinds of organic detritus, particularly decaying vegetable matter but also carrion and dung. Some species have more specific associations, developing in fungi, birds' nests and mammal lairs.

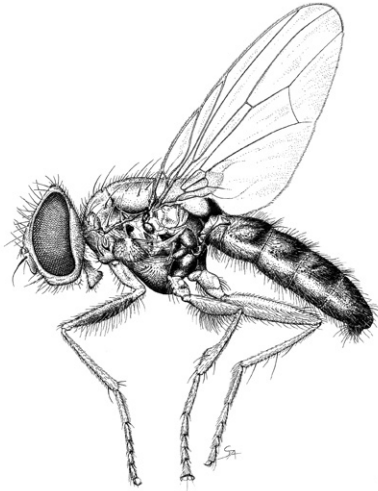
**Nomenclature and classification:** According to most recent account of the European species (Barták et al. 2016).

**Number of species:** CH: 63 (1998 Checklist: 55),  
BE: 35, CZ: 70, DE: 59, FR: 50, GB: 61, HU: 48, IT: 42, NL: 24, SK: 54, Europe: 84, World: 408.

**Level of faunistic knowledge in Switzerland:** Good.

**General references:** d'Assis-Fonseca (1968) [keys, British species], Barták et al. (2016) [keys, European species], Hennig (1955a, 1955b, 1956) [descriptions and figures, Palaearctic species; still useful], Lyneborg (1965) [keys, larvae, European species], Pont (1986) [catalogue, Palaearctic species], Pont (2014) [Fauna Europaea], Rozkošný et al. (1997) [keys, descriptions and figures, European species].

**References to the Swiss fauna:** Bächli et al. (2014), Grossmann & Pont (2024), Haenni & Pont (2008), Merz et al. (2002, 2006), Merz & Pont (2012).



*Fannia scalaris*,  
male (CMPD A, p. 448).

## Checklist

*Fannia* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830

- *aequilineata* Ringdahl, 1945 !
- *armata* (Meigen, 1826) !
- *atra* (Stein, 1895) !
- *barbata* (Stein, 1892) !
- *brinae* Albuquerque, 1951 !
- *canicularis* (Linnaeus, 1761) !
- *carbonaria* (Meigen, 1826) L
- *carbonella* (Stein, 1895) !
- *clara* Collin, 1939 !
- *conspicua* Rudzinski, 2003 !
- *coracina* (Loew, 1873) !
- *corvina* (Verrall, 1892) !
- *cothurnata* (Loew, 1873) !
- *difficilis* (Stein, 1895) !
- *fuscitibia* Stein, 1920 !
- *fuscula* (Fallén, 1825) !
- *genualis* (Stein, 1895) !
- *hirticeps* (Stein, 1892) !
- *immutica* Collin, 1939 !
- *incisurata* (Zetterstedt, 1838) !
- *krimensis* Ringdahl, 1934 !
- *latipalpis* (Stein, 1892) !
- *lepida* (Wiedemann, 1817) !
- = *mutica* (Zetterstedt, 1845)

- *leucosticta* (Meigen, 1838) L
  - *lineata* (Stein, 1895) !
  - *lucidula* (Zetterstedt, 1860) ! N1
    - = *glaucescens* auct.
  - *lugubrina* (Zetterstedt, 1838) !
  - *lustrator* (Harris, 1780) !
    - = *hamata* (Macquart, 1835)
  - *manicata* (Meigen, 1826) !
  - *melania* (Dufour, 1839) !
  - *metallipennis* (Zetterstedt, 1838) !
  - *minutipalpis* (Stein, 1895) !
  - *mollissima* (Haliday, 1840) !
  - *monilis* (Haliday, 1838) !
  - *monticola* Pont, 1996 !
  - *nidica* Collin, 1939 !
  - *nigra* Malloch, 1910 !
  - *norvegica* Ringdahl, 1934 !
  - *ornata* (Meigen, 1826) !
  - *pallitibia* (Rondani, 1866) !
  - *parva* (Stein, 1895) !
  - *pauli* (Pont in Rozkošný et al., 1997) ! N2
    - = *nitida* (Stein, 1895), preocc.
  - *polychaeta* (Stein, 1895) !
  - *postica* (Stein, 1895) !
  - *posticata* (Meigen, 1826) !
    - = *pretiosa* (Schiner, 1862)
  - *pruinosa* (Meigen, 1826) !
  - *pseudonorvegica* d'Assis-Fonseca, 1966 !
  - *ringdahlana* Collin, 1939 !
  - *rondanii* (Strobl, 1893) !
  - *scalaris* (Fabricius, 1794) !
  - *serena* (Fallén, 1825) !
  - *similis* (Stein, 1895) !
  - *sociella* (Zetterstedt, 1845) !
    - = *spinosa* Karl, 1928
  - *spathiophora* Malloch, 1918 !
  - *speciosa* (Villeneuve, 1898) !
  - *subsimilis* Ringdahl, 1934 !
  - *umbratica* Collin, 1939 !
  - *umbrosa* (Stein, 1895) !
  - *verrallii* (Stein, 1895) !
  - *vesparia* (Meade, 1891) !
  - *vespertilionis* Ringdahl, 1934 !
- Piezura* Rondani, 1866
- *graminicola* (Zetterstedt, 1846) !
    - = *boletorum* (Rondani, 1866)

- *pardalina* Rondani, 1866 ! N3  
= *graminicola* auct.

## Notes

- N1 The lectotype of *Fannia glaucescens* (Zetterstedt, 1845) proved to belong to *Fannia armata* (Meigen, 1826), and so the name *Fannia lucidula* (Zetterstedt, 1860) became the correct name for *Fannia glaucescens* auct. (Pont 2002).
- N2 *Fannia nitida* (Stein, 1895) is a junior secondary homonym of *Fannia nitida* (Macquart, 1835) and was given the replacement name *Fannia pauli* Pont in Rozkošný et al. (1997).
- N3 Study of the holotype of *Piezura graminicola* (Zetterstedt, 1846) showed that the name had been consistently misapplied. *Piezura graminicola* is actually an older name for *Piezura boletorum* (Rondani, 1866), and *Piezura pardalina* Rondani, 1866 is the correct name for *Piezura graminicola* auct. (Pont 2002).

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