

## Platystomatidae

Gerhard Bächli (1998 Checklist: Bernhard Merz)

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**Diagnosis:** Small to medium-sized flies (3.0-6.0 mm). Head round to somewhat flattened; antennae short; no vibrissae. Thorax broad, subquadrate; thorax weakly pruinose (*Rivellia*) to strongly pruinose and patterned (*Platystoma*). Wing membrane with transverse bands (*Rivellia*) or darkened with pattern of pale markings (*Platystoma*); C only with humeral break; R<sub>1</sub> with series of short setulae; cell cup without extension at posterodistal corner. Legs without conspicuous setae.

**Biology:** The larvae are either saprophagous in rotting vegetation or are associated with root nodules in leguminous plants (*Rivellia*). Adults occur in meadows and grassland swamps with legumes (*Rivellia*) or in warm steppe to forest-steppe habitats (*Platystoma*).

**Nomenclature and classification:** Korneyev (2007).

**Number of species:** CH: 4 (1998 Checklist: 4),  
BE: 2, CZ: 6, DE: 2, IT: 9, NL: 2, UK: 2, Europe: 20, World: ~1100.

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

**General references:** Clements (1990) [key], McAlpine (1998) [general, key to genera], Korneyev (2001).

**References to the Swiss fauna:** Merz (1996, 1998).

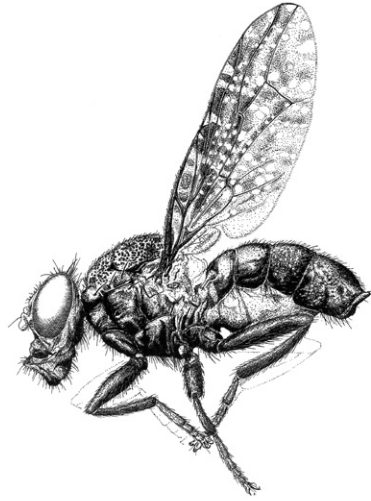
### Checklist

*Platystoma* Meigen, 1803

- *gemmaionis* (Rondani, 1869) !
- *lugubre* (Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830) !
- *seminationis* (Fabricius, 1775) !

*Rivellia* Robineau-Desvoidy, 1830

- *syngenesiae* (Fabricius, 1781) !



*Platystoma lugubre*,  
male (CMPD3, p.194).

## References

- Clements D.K. 1990. Provisional key to the Otitidae and Platystomatidae of the British Isles. *Dipterists Digest* 6: 32-41.
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- McAlpine D.K. 1998. 3.13. Family Platystomatidae. In: Papp L. & Darvas B. (eds). *Contributions to a Manual of Palaearctic Diptera (with special reference to flies of economic importance). Vol. 3, Higher Brachycera: 193-199. Science Herald, Budapest, 880 pp.*
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- Merz B. 1998. 60. Platystomatidae. In: Merz B., Bächli G., Haenni J.-P. & Gonthier Y. (eds). *Diptera - Checklist. Fauna Helvetica* 1: 241. CSCF / SEG, Neuchâtel, 369 pp.