



Royal
Entomological
Society

British Insects

► Kingdom – Animalia ► Phylum – Arthropoda ► SubPhylum – Hexapoda ► Class – Insecta

There are about 24,000 insect species known in Britain, 72,000 in Europe and 1,000,000 on Earth.

Order – Archaeognatha Bristletails

1 Family, 7 species



Jumping bristletail
Petrobius maritimus
13 mm

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Order – Dictyoptera Cockroaches, Termites and Mantids

5 Families, 11 species



Cockroach
Ectobius lapponicus
9 mm

ROGER KEY

Order – Hemiptera True Bugs

63 Families, 1830 species



Hawthorn shield bug
Acanthosoma haemorrhoidale
14 mm

PETER BARNARD

Order – Diptera True Flies

103 Families, 7000 species



Marmalade hover fly
Episyrphus balteatus
Female. 10 mm

ROBIN WILLIAMS



Flesh fly
Sarcophaga carnaria
Female. 13 mm

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Mosquito
Culiseta annulata,
Female. 9 mm

ROGER KEY

Order – Megaloptera Alderflies

1 Family, 3 species



Alderfly
Sialis lutaria
13 mm

ROGER KEY

Order – Zygentoma Silverfish and Firebrats

1 Family, 2 species



Firebrat
Thermobia domestica
3 mm

PETER BARNARD

Order – Orthoptera Grasshoppers, Crickets and Bush Crickets

10 Families, 33 species



Woodland grasshopper
Omocentrus rufipes
Male. 16 mm

ROBIN WILLIAMS



Great green bush cricket
Tettigonia viridissima
Female. 65 mm including
ovipositor

PETER TILLEY

Order – Psocodea Parasitic Lice, Booklice and Barklice

36 Families, 650 species



Parasitic louse of swans
and ducks
Trinoton anserinum
5 mm

LAOS ROSZA
CCL



Barklouse
Psococercus gibbosa
7 mm

ROGER KEY

Order – Hymenoptera Ants, Bees and Wasps

57 Families, 7000 species



Wood ant
Formica rufa
Female worker. 10 mm

ROBIN WILLIAMS



White-tailed bumblebee
Bombus lucorum
Female worker. 15 mm

ROBIN WILLIAMS



Ichneumonid wasp
Rhyssa persuasoria
Female. 80 mm including
ovipositor

ROBIN WILLIAMS

Order – Neuroptera Lacewings

6 Families, 69 species



Lacewing
Chrysoperla carnea
15 mm

ROGER KEY

Order – Raphidioptera Snakeflies

1 Family, 4 species



Snakefly
Subilla confinis
Female. 15 mm

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Order – Ephemeroptera Mayflies

10 Families, 51 species

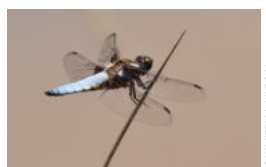


Mayfly
Ephemera danica
Female. 20 mm

STUART CROFTS

Order – Odonata Dragonflies and Damselflies

9 Families, 49 species



Broad-bodied chaser
dragonfly
Libellula depressa
Male. 42 mm

ROBIN WILLIAMS



Banded demoiselle
Calopteryx splendens
Male. 45 mm

STEVE BAKER

Order – Phasmida Stick Insects

2 Families, 4 species



Mediterranean stick insect
Bacillus rossius
85 mm

PETER BARNARD

Order – Thysanoptera Thrips

3 Families, 179 species

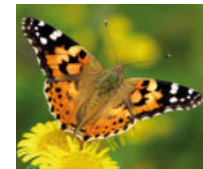


Western flower thrips
Frankliniella occidentalis
1.5 mm

JACK T REED
MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY
BUGWOOD.ORG

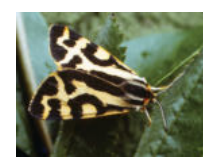
Order – Lepidoptera Butterflies and Moths

72 Families, 2570 species



Painted lady butterfly
Vanessa cardui
Female. 25 mm

GINN McDONALD



Wood tiger moth
Parasemia plantaginis
Male. 15 mm

ROGER KEY

Order – Siphonaptera Fleas

7 Families, 62 species



Human flea
Pulex irritans
Male. 3 mm

PETER BARNARD

Order – Strepsiptera Stylops

4 Families, 10 species



Stylops
Stylops mellittae
Male. 5 mm

ANOK GHIL

Order – Dermaptera Earwigs

4 Families, 7 species



Earwig
Forficula auricularia
Female. 14 mm

DAVE CHESMORE

Order – Plecoptera Stoneflies

7 Families, 34 species



Willowfly
Euleuctra geniculata
Female. 10 mm

STUART CROFTS

Order – Mecoptera Scorpionflies

2 Families, 4 species



Scorpionfly
Panorpa communis
Male. 15 mm

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