

Hippoboscoidea

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Hippoboscoidea is a superfamily of the Calyptratae. The flies in this superfamily are blood-feeding obligate parasites of their hosts. Four families are often placed here:

- Glossinidae - Tsetse flies
- Hippoboscidae - Ked flies
- Nycteribiidae - Bat flies
- Streblidae - Bat flies

The Hippoboscidae are commonly called louse flies or ked flies. The bat flies are Nycteribiidae and Streblidae; the latter are probably not monophyletic.^[1] The family Glossinidae, monotypic as to genus, contains the tsetse flies, economically important as the vectors of trypanosomiasis. The enigmatic Mormotomyiidae are entirely monotypic at present, with the single species *Mormotomyia hirsuta* known from one locality in Kenya. Most probably, the Mormotomyiidae belong to the Ephydroidea and not to Hippoboscoidea as previously constructed.^[2]

In older literature, this group is often referred to as the **Pupipara** ("pupa-bearers"), because, unlike virtually all other insects, most of the larval development takes place inside the mother's body, and pupation occurs almost immediately after "birth" – in essence, instead of laying eggs, a female lays full-sized pupae one at a time. In the strict sense, the Pupipara only encompass the Hippoboscidae, Nycteribiidae, and "Streblidae", which in older works were all included in the Hippoboscidae.

Development


Species of the Hippoboscoidea do not lay eggs. Instead, the larvae hatch *in utero*, are fed internally by 'milk glands', and pass through three morphological stages before being deposited to pupate. This type of reproduction is termed as Adenotrophic viviparity.^[3]

References

- Petersen *et al.* (2007)
- Kirk-Spriggs, A.H., Kotrba, M. & Copeland, R.S. 2011. Further details of the morphology of the enigmatic African fly *Mormotomyia hirsuta* Austen (Diptera: Mormotomyiidae). *African Invertebrates* **52** (1): 145-165.[1] (http://www.africaninvertebrates.org.za/KirkSpriggs_2011_52_1_493.aspx)
- Krafsur, E. S. "Tsetse flies: genetics, evolution, and role as vectors." *Infection, Genetics and Evolution* 9.1 (2009): 124-141.

Further reading

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Tsetse fly (genus *Glossina*)

Scientific classification

Kingdom: Animalia

Phylum: Arthropoda

Class: Insecta

Order: Diptera

Suborder: Brachycera

Infraorder: Muscomorpha

Section: Schizophora

Subsection: Calyptratae

Superfamily: **Hippoboscoidea**

Families

About 5, see text.



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- Petersen, Frederik Torp; Meier, Rudolf; Kutty, Sujatha Narayanan & Wiegmann, Brian M. (2007): The phylogeny and evolution of host choice in the Hippoboscoidea (Diptera) as reconstructed using four molecular markers. *Mol. Phylogenet. Evol.* **45**(1): 111–122. doi:10.1016/j.ympev.2007.04.023 (<https://dx.doi.org/10.1016%2Fj.ympev.2007.04.023>) (HTML abstract)



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