

Diptera:

***Key to the Families of Diptera starts on page 680**

Families you should know for the final practical:

Tipulidae
Bombylidae
Syrphidae
Asilidae
Culicidae
Tachinidae*
Calliphoridae*
Sarcophagidae*

(*Muscoid flies - has frontal suture)

Comments about dipterans and the key:

Muscoid flies have a frontal suture, or an upside down U shaped suture that extends from the lower margins of the compound eyes and above the bases of the antennae (Fig. 34-5). *If the specimen is a muscoid fly, start at couplet 65/65'.*

Couplet 3/3' distinguished short-horned flies from long-horned flies

Couplet 4/4' - the only family with a V-shaped suture on the mesonotum is Tipulidae (crane flies)

Couplet 22/22' - If the thickening of the anterior edge of the wing (the costa) ends near the wing tip (Fig 34-8A-F), the costa is said to extend only to the wing tip. Go to 23. If there is no abrupt thinning of anterior wing margin near the wing tip (Fig. 34-8G-I), the costa is said to continue around the wing. Go to 25.

Couplet 66/66' - All of our muscoid flies are calyptate; go to 67.

Closed cell = a cell that does not reach the wing margin

Empodia = padlike or bristlelike structure in between claws of feet

Holoptic - eyes contiguous above

Hyaline - like glass, transparent, colorless

Hypopleuron - lower part of mesepimeron

Posterior cell = one of cells extending to hind margin of wing, between 3rd and 6th longitudinal veins (Fig. 34-4B)

Rs - radial sector (Fig. 34-4 and Fig. 2-10); first posterior branch of radius

*Look at the figures!

**Read the family descriptions!