

Mecoptera of Virginia

Virginia is host to one of the most diverse Mecoptera (scorpionflies, hangingflies and allies) faunas of any state or province in North America. The following checklist includes all 34 species (33 native and 1 presumed accidental) of this ancient insect group that have been documented in Virginia, accounting for about one-third of the North American fauna. Five additional species of *Panorpa* are known from localities in neighboring states within 50 miles (80 km) of the Virginia border, so some of them may eventually be discovered in the state. Common names are lacking for nearly all of the species in the checklist, so none are provided.

Family Bittacidae

Bittacus occidentis Walker
Bittacus pilicornis Westwood
Bittacus punctiger Westwood
Bittacus stigmaterus Say
Bittacus strigosus Hagen
Hylobittacus apicalis (Hagen)

Panorpa confusa Westwood
Panorpa consuetudinis Snodgrass
Panorpa debilis Westwood
Panorpa dissimilis Carpenter
Panorpa helena Byers
Panorpa insolens Carpenter
Panorpa isolata Carpenter
Panorpa latipennis Hine
Panorpa longicornis Carpenter

Family Boreidae

Boreus brumalis Fitch
Boreus nivoriundus Fitch

Panorpa lugubris Swederus
Panorpa maculosa Hagen
Panorpa mirabilis Carpenter
Panorpa nebulosa Westwood
Panorpa neglecta Carpenter

Family Meropeidae

Merope tuber Newman

Panorpa nuptialis Gerstaecker*
Panorpa palustris Byers
Panorpa subfurcata Westwood
Panorpa submaculosa Carpenter
Panorpa subulifera Byers
Panorpa virginica Carpenter

Family Panorpidae

Panorpa acuta Carpenter
Panorpa americana Swederus
Panorpa bifida Carpenter
Panorpa claripennis Hine

Family Panorpodidae

Brachypanorpa jeffersoni Byers

*Believed to be non-native in Virginia (2 records)

Primary Reference on Virginia's Mecoptera Fauna

Oliver S. Flint, Jr., George W. Byers, and Wesley J. Bicha. 2020. Scorpionflies, Hangingflies and Allies of Virginia (Insecta: Mecoptera), The Insects of Virginia, No. 16. Virginia Museum of Natural History, Martinsville, Virginia. 43 pp.