

FAMILY DRYOPIDAE (Long-toed water beetles)

L. LeSage

The family includes over 200 species worldwide but only six occur in Canada. Adults are essentially phytophagous, feeding on diatoms, algae and decaying wood. The truly aquatic adults of *Helichus* inhabit riffles of water courses, using a hydrofuge plastron for breathing like elmids. Adults of *Dryops* are typically riparian. They can take flight directly from water surface when disturbed. Dryopid larvae are rarely collected; the few specimens collected were found in moist soil on banks of creeks where the adults live.

The family has not been revised since Brown (1972) put together all the taxonomic information. The Canadian fauna is reasonably well-known for the province of Quebec and Ontario (LeSage & Harper 1975). A catalog of the North American species was recently published (Brown 1983a).

BC (2); AB (1); SK (1); MB (1); ON (2); PQ (5); NB (2); NS (2); PE (1); NF (1); I (1)

Genus DRYOPS Olivier

(Subgenus YRDOPS Steffan)

D. viennensis (Heer)+ - - - - - PQ - - - - -

Genus HELICHUS Erichson

Key to North American species: Musgrave (1935)

Key to North American species: Brown (1972)

H. basalis LeConte - - - - - PQ NB NS - - -
H. columbianus W.J. Brown - - - BC - - - - - - - - -
H. fastigiatus (Say) - - - - - PQ - - - - -
H. lithophilus (Germar) - - - - - ON PQ - - - - -
H. striatus LeConte - - - BC AB SK MB ON PQ NB NS PE - NF
 foveatus LeConte