FAMILY LIMNICHIDAE
(Minute marsh-loving beetles)

L. LeSage

Of the three subfamilies and 15 genera of Limnichidae described from the Western Hemisphere, only two genera and four species occur in Canada. Adults of limnichids are usually active near water in the leaf litter during the day; they come in numbers to light. The larvae are rarely collected and are not represented in most collections. Paulus (1970) first described the immature stages of two European species; they are terrestrial, live in moist soil, and tunnel under layers of mosses and algae which they use as food.

This group of beetles was first considered as a tribe of Byrrhidae, but Hinton (1939a, b) elevated it to family rank and placed it in the superfamily Dryopoidea after a study of the internal anatomy. The North American limnichid fauna is now well-known after a series of recent revisions by Wooldridge; he also published a catalog of the North American species in 1986.

BC (1); MB (1); ON (4); PQ (1)

Subfamily LIMNICHINAE
Key to North American genera: Wooldridge (1975)
Tribe Limnichini

Genus LIMNICHITES Casey
Key to North American species: Wooldridge (1977)

L. huronicus Casey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ON	-	-	-	-	-	-
L. olivaceus (LeConte) virginicus Casey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ON	-	-	-	-	-	-
L. punctatus (LeConte) austinianus Casey	-	-	-	BC	-	-	MB	ON	PQ	-	-	-	-	-

Genus LUTROCHUS Erichson
Key to North American species: Brown (1972)

L. laticeps Casey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ON	-	-	-	-	-	-