Psocoptera

Common Name: Psocids, book lice, bark lice.

Etymology: Psoco- = rub; -ptera = wings.

Metamorphosis: Hemimetabolous; oviparous or viviparous; some parthenogenetic.

CHARACTERISTICS

<u>Body</u>: Minute to small; fragile, slender or slightly globose bodies; often dorso-ventrally flattened.

Head: Mobile, hypognathous, large in relation to body.

Mouthparts: Ectognathous; chewing; labial silk glands present.

Eyes: Compound eyes usually well-developed; 3 ocelli in winged forms, absent in apterous forms.

Antennae: Long, filiform.

Wings: Most with 2 pairs; membranous, reduced venation, open cell in middle with veins radiating out; held rooflike over the body at rest; forewing largest; vestigial or absent in some.

Legs: Slender legs with enlarged femora; 2-3-segmented tarsi; paired tarsal claws.

Abdomen: Ovipositor partly and aedeagus completely concealed; cerci lacking

<u>Comments</u>: Feed on starchy material (eg. book binding glue), and animal and vegetable debris; they are considered intermediate between the Zorapterans and hemipteroid orders.

SUBORDERS

<u>Trogiomorpha</u>: 20 or more antennal segments; 2-segmented labial palps; 3-segmented tarsi.

* Family Trogiidae.

<u>Troctomorpha</u>: less than 20 antennal segments; 2-segmented labial palps; 3-segmented tarsi; often with expanded hind femora; usually relatively small.

* Family Liposcelidae

<u>Psocomorpha</u>: less than 20 antennal segments; 1-segmented labial palps; 2 or 3-segmented tarsi.

- * Family Myopsocidae we have microscope slides.
- * Family Psocidae these are the bark lice.
- * Family Pseudocaeciliidae Cu & A1 are not fused; tarsi 2-segmented; includes the cosmopolitan grain psocid that is sometimes found in stored grain samples in N.D.

Order Psocoptera Barklice and Booklice



