

AN ANNOTATED LIST OF ARTHROPODS COLLECTED FROM RING-BILLED GULL NESTS ON GRANITE ISLAND, BLACK BAY, LAKE SUPERIOR, 1972 AND 1973

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Abstract

An annotated list of names is given of arthropods collected from ring-billed gull *Larus delawarensis* Ord nests.

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The foremost check-lists of insects in bird nests have been compiled by Hicks (1959, 1962); they include 18 orders of insects, 26 orders of birds, an ornithological check-list, and pertinent citations up to 1962. References to observations of insects in larid nests comprise 15 species. However, no account is given on nest inhabitants of the ring-billed gull *Larus delawarensis* Ord.

The work upon which the following list of names and other papers (Freitag *et al.*, 1974; and Ryder and Freitag, 1974) is based was carried out during the summer and winter of 1972 and the summer of 1973. Nests of ring-billed gulls on Granite Island, 48° 43' N, 88° 29' W., were examined first for arthropods specifically in relation to chick mortality. In subsequent investigations fluctuations in the nest mite populations were observed to follow closely the breeding cycle of the gulls (Freitag *et al.*, 1974). Also moisture and nest size were found to govern the density of the arthropod populations in general. During the course of these studies approximately 26,000 arthropods were removed from sixty-nine gull nests. Details of the collecting methods and treatment of material have been described elsewhere (Ryder and Freitag, 1974).

The list below contains names of almost all of the collected arthropods. A few immature forms remain unidentified and have been excluded. While determinations to species were made whenever possible, specimens of groups which require taxonomic revision or damaged specimens were identified to genus. Except for orders, which are arranged according to tradition, families, genera, and species are in alphabetical order. An asterisk following a name indicates that the taxon has been observed in nests of birds other than ring-billed gulls (see Hicks 1959, 1962, for bird names and references). Remarks by the systematists, who identified the specimens have been altered slightly to suit the list.

Order Pseudoscorpiones

Cheliferidae

*Chelifer* Sp.

Order Opiliones

genus undetermined

Order Araneida

Araneidae

*Aranea* Sp. (immature)

Clubionidae

*Clubiona* Sp. (immature)

Chloropidae

*Gaurax melanotum* Sabrosky  
*Oscinella*\* near *umbrosa* (Leow.)  
*Siphonella* prob. *setulosa* Mall.  
*Siphonella* Sp. tenera

Dixidae

*Dixa* Sp. Larvae are aquatic in freshwater

Ephydriidae

*Scatella picea* (Walk)

Lauxaniidae

*Minettia*\* *lupulina* (Fab.)

Milichiidae

*Leptomitopa*\* Sp. prob. *rufifrons* Becker. Members of this genus are often found in birds nests, larvae probably live in excrement and decaying organic matter.

Muscidae

*Muscina assimilis*\* (Fallen) Common filth inhabiting fly.

Scatopsidae

*Scatopse fuscipes*\* Meigen

Sciaridae

*Bradysia*\* Sp.

Sphaeroceridae

*Leptocera*\* Sp.  
*Sphaerocera pusilla*\* (Fallen)

Order Hymenoptera

Aphelinidae

*Aphelinus* near *mali* Haldeman

Braconidae

*Apanteles*\* Sp. These are parasites of lepidopteran larvae and the groups to which this specimen belongs attack macrolepidopterans. It is probably only an accident.

Ceraphronidae

*Conostigmus* Sp. Primary parasites of higher Diptera (Brachycera). Thus this genus is relevant to gull's nest fauna.

Chalcididae

*Asaphes vulgaris*\* Walker.

Cynipidae

*Kleidotoma*\* Sp.

Diapriidae

*Trichopria*\* Sp. Are primarily parasites of higher Diptera (Brachycera). This genus is thus relevant to gull's nest fauna.