



Dobson Fly

Megaloptera: Corydalidae
Corydalus cornutus

Location: Eastern North America, Canada and Mexico

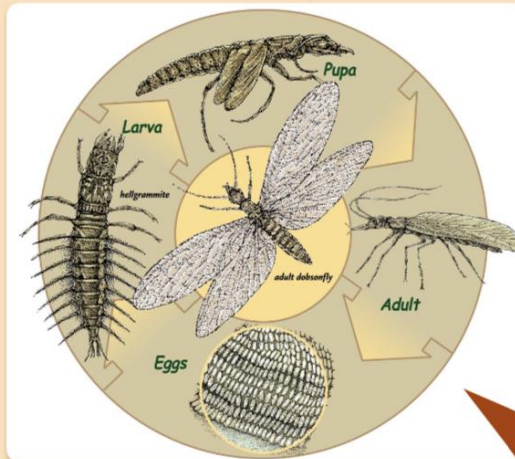
Habitat: Flowing streams/rivers



Beautiful, patterned wings! Adults usually walk, as their wings are weak, despite being so large.

Larvae live under rocks in flowing water. They eat small stream insects, worms and other small invertebrates. Adults usually live around the water too, as they don't live very long.

Life Cycle



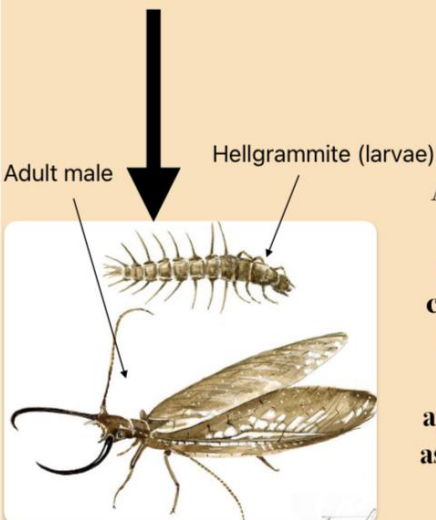
* After hatching from eggs, the larvae, known as hellgrammites, fall into the water.

* They live in the water for a few years, then crawl out and form a cocoon.

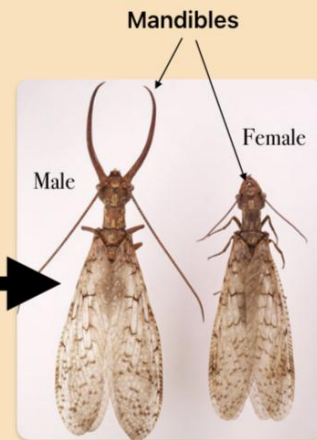
* Once out the cocoon they only live for a few days!

The adult life cycle is so short because they adult Dobson flies spend all their time mating and forget to eat!

***Adults usually grow about 3-5 inches!!!**



A key difference between males and females is their mandibles. Males (left) have much larger mandibles compared to females (on the right). Males use their mandibles during mating to grasp females. Despite appearance, male mandibles are not as strong as females due to the length creating a weaker grip.



Work Cited

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