

Diptera

Cranefly

Native to Maine

Freshwater
Woodlands, Floodplains, and Streams

Larval Form

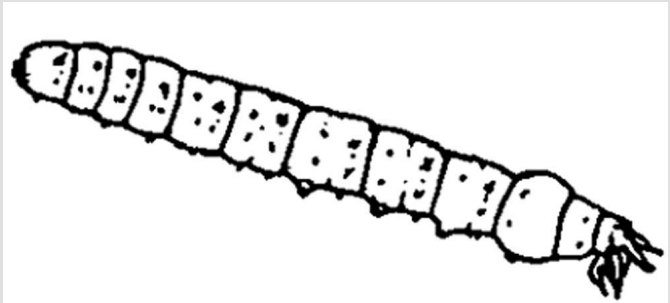


Wikimedia Commons user Rasbak



Look for a worm-like larva that has thick, somewhat transparent skin. A set of hairs will come out of one end. It will be up to 6 cm long.

Larva Illustration



Kentucky State University



Take note of the characteristically plump and squishy body. Look for frilly hairs at one end and a point at the other end.

Variations and Details

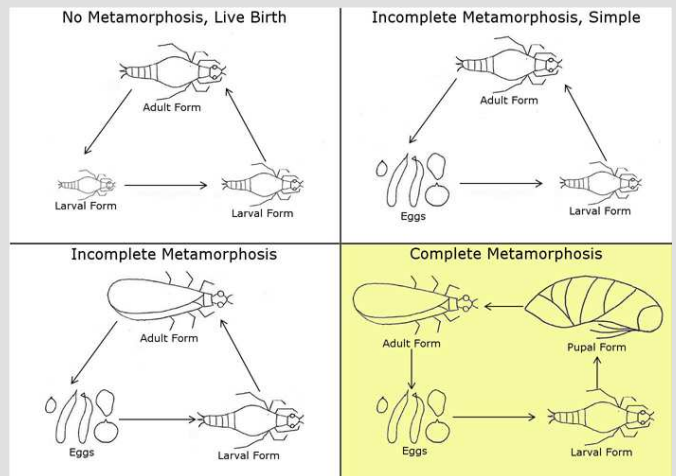


WC user Beentree, Flickr user 1967geezer & Kevin M



Look for plump larva, but plumpness may vary. Colors range from brown to green.

Life Cycle Diagram



Adult Form



Flickr.com user Mamboman1



Look for adults that resemble giant mosquitoes. They possess long legs and plump bodies. The wings are often held out when at rest. They vary in size from 2 to 60 mm.

Similar Species

Adult crane fly bodies can resemble mosquitoes, however crane flies are much larger. Mosquitoes also have fuzzy antennae but crane flies do not.

Did You Know?

It takes three days for a crane fly egg to hatch and about one month for a larva to become an adult. Jeffrey Rubel (species expert) says: "The crane fly is the Stay Puft Marshmallow man of the macro-invertebrate world."

Moderately tolerant to pollution.



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