

AGROMYZIDÆ.

Front with strong bristles; border of the mouth with a vibrissa on each side. Middle tibiæ with a terminal spur; all the tibiæ on the exterior side without erect bristle before the tip. Wings without bristles on the costa; first longitudinal vein very short, and the auxiliary vein connected with it at the tip; basal cells existing, but small; posterior transverse vein generally far distant from the border of the wing.

PHYTOMYZIDÆ.

Front bristly; border of the mouth with vibrissæ on each side. Middle tibiæ with spurs; all the tibiæ without erect bristle on the exterior side. Wings without bristles on the costa; first longitudinal vein very short; auxiliary vein connected with it at the tip; basal cells existing, but small; posterior transverse vein wanting.

ASTEIDÆ.

Front bristly above; border of the mouth with a vibrissa at each side. Middle tibiæ with spurs; all the tibiæ without erect bristle on the exterior side. Wings without bristles on the costa; first longitudinal vein exceedingly short; auxiliary vein connected with it only at the tip; second longitudinal vein very short; two posterior basal cells as well as the posterior transverse vein wanting.

BORBORIDÆ.

Thorax, scutellum, and abdomen flat; front bristly; face excavated, with a vibrissa on each side of the border of the mouth; clypeus developed; first joint of the posterior tarsi abbreviated. Neuration of the wing incomplete, only a commencement of the auxiliary vein being at best visible; the hindmost two basal cells are not complete in all genera.

PHORIDÆ.

Small, hunchback-like, nearly bare species. Head small, flattened; face very short, oral opening large. Front broad in both sexes; ocelli present. Antennæ apparently one or two-jointed, the terminal joint round, with a dorsal or apical bristle. Abdomen rather short, narrowed posteriorly; genitalia of male often prominent, in the female projecting. Coxæ elongate, the femora more or less, the hind pair often extraordinarily, widened and flattened. Wings large; on the anterior part with two strong veins, not reaching beyond the middle, from which from three to five weak veins apparently arise and run across the wing.

The larvæ feed upon living or dead snails, beetles, hymenoptera and lepidoptera, or on fungi, decaying vegetables, etc. The flies have a peculiar hunchback appearance, rapidly running hither and thither.