

N. Illinoensis ♀ may be distinguished from the female of *N. Sayi* by the form of the pygidium and the joints of antennae. All of the specimens of *N. Sayi* ♀ have the abdomen four spotted. In all except two specimens of *N. Illinoensis* ♀ the abdomen is five-spotted, or six spotted, when the mark on segment 4 is broken in two. The single specimen of *N. parva* ♀ has the abdomen eight-spotted. I separate the ♂ of *N. Illinoensis* from that of *N. Sayi* by the joints of antennae. In *N. parva* ♂ the scape is stouter, and the ornaments of abdomen are different.

N. Sayi is closely related to *N. Cressonii*, differing mainly in size and colour.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE FOSSORIAL, PREDACEOUS AND PARASITIC WASPS, OR THE SUPERFAMILY VESPOIDEA.

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SUBFAMILY II. *Ageninae*.

The majority of the species falling in this subfamily are usually smaller and much less conspicuous than those in the other subfamilies, and with totally different habits. None are true diggers, but, on the contrary, build small oblong, or oval, clay cells, beneath the loose bark of old trees, under stones, or in crevices in old stone walls, etc., not unlike some of the Potter wasps (*Eumenidae*).

The group comes evidently nearest to the *Pepsinae*, the females having, as in that group, a transverse grooved line, impression or emargination on the second ventral segment. From that group, however, it is at once separated by the difference in the legs, the hind tibiae being smooth, never serrate or spinous, or with a longitudinal ridge, but, at the most, with only a few very minute, scarcely perceptible spines.

These characters readily distinguish the *Ageninae* from all other Pompilids.

The beginner at first might possibly confuse some males in this group with some small males belonging in the subfamily *Pompilinae*, since there is a superficial resemblance in some, but strongly spined legs, always existing in the males of the latter group, ought readily to differentiate the two.