

little insects for the assurance of the perpetuation of the species, is in the deposition of the eggs upon some food-plant, where nature attends to the hatching, and the larvæ, guided by what we call instinct, look out for themselves.

The name Saw-flies was given to the Tenthredinidæ because of the shape of the ovipositor of the female, which resembles two minute saws placed side by side, and fitting into a groove underneath the abdomen, similar to the manner in which the blades of a knife fit into the handle. Not only do these weapons resemble a saw in shape, but they also serve the purpose of a saw, for the larvæ feed upon living vegetable tissue, the saws being used in making an incision for the reception of the egg.

In general, the Hymenoptera is a beneficial order of insects, but in it are also some pests of special economic importance, because of their destructive habits. Such pests belong to the Saw-fly family.

Though a few pests among them occur in Colorado, a far greater number are harmless, and never noticed in the adult stage, save by the entomologist or some other close observer of insect life. The genus *Tenthredo* contains the greatest number of Colorado species, none of which are of any special economic importance, but none the less interesting to the student of entomology.

Many species of Saw flies have the gall-making habit, these galls being found on different species of willow, and are familiar objects to any one who has spent much time along the mountain streams of Colorado, where many species of willows grow in abundance, and are often very much disfigured by the presence of the little miniature houses of these gall-inhabiting species.

A special study was made of *Euura S. nodus*, a common species in Colorado, inhabiting galls occurring on *Salix longifolia*, and described by Mr. Benjamin D. Walsh as gall *S. nodus*. The following is his description of the gall, and is accurate for the Colorado specimens :

" *Gall S. nodus*, n. sp., on *Salix longifolia*. A mere gradual enlargement of a twig from one-fourth more than its normal diameter up to twice its normal diameter, almost always without any abnormal roughness on the external bark, and always not confined to one side of the twig. General colour that of the twig. When cut into August the 28th, the interior of each gall is found to be pithy, and to contain one to three larvæ in separate cells. Frequently on a piece of twig six inches long three or four of these galls are placed at irregular intervals. No appearance internally