

# Family Coccinellidae

Latreille, 1807

## Diagnosis

### Adult

**HEAD:** usually exposed; labrum free or rarely hidden under expanded clypeus; no frontoclypeal suture; gular sutures separated; corporotentorium almost always absent, rarely visible posteriorly as a slender bar; ventral antennal grooves present or absent. Antenna 7–11-segmented, with 1–3-segmented club; rarely with club indistinct. Mandible unidentate or bidentate (multidentate in Epilachnini) apically, never with asperate mola, fringed prosthema usually present; galea and lacinia well developed; lacinia without apical hooks; last segment of maxillary palps usually expanded or securiform.

**PROTHORAX:** prothoracic margins without glandular openings, rarely with sublateral carina; notum without prebasal impressions; procoxal cavity weakly to strongly transverse, closed internally, open behind externally; protrochantin hidden; intercoxal process always separates transverse procoxae.

**PTEROTHORAX:** mesocoxae moderately to widely separated, their cavities open externally but mesotrochantin is hidden; meso-metaventral junction simple, rarely with internal metasternal knob. Metaventricle nearly always with postcoxal lines, almost never with post coxal pits; metacoxae well separated; metendosternite with stalk broad and subquadrate or very short, lateral plates usually distinct, anterior tendons moderately to widely separated.

**WING:** without closed R cell, medio-cubital loop usually distinct, A veins 1-2, no true medial fleck.

**ELYTRA:** covering abdomen completely; punctures almost never in regular rows; sutural flanges not apically widened.

**LEGS:** trochanter more or less elongate, or normal; tibiae usually rather broad, with or without spurs; tarsi 4-4-4 (rarely 3-3-3) in both sexes; tarsomere 3 usually smallest, 1 and 2 lobed below; claw often appendiculate, split or dentate apically.

**ABDOMEN:** with five or six ventrites; usually ventrite 1 longer than 2, and nearly always with postcoxal lines; ventrites 1 and 2 fused with suture variable but at least obsolete medially; phragmata, if present, on front angles of ventrites 3–5; functional spiracles on segments 1–5.

**AEDEAGUS:** characteristic, tegmen complex with ventral strut articulating anteriorly with phallobase; parameres and median penis guide usually well developed and symmetrical.

**OVIPOSITOR:** very short, coxites fused to valvifers, styli usually minute or absent.