

SYSTEMS OF CLASSIFICATION

Below we present a tabular statement of the principal systems that have been proposed for dividing the order Plecoptera into sub-orders and families.

PICTET 1842	NEEDHAM 1901	ENDERLEIN 1906	KLAPALEK 1909	TILLYARD 1922	THIS WORK 1926
Perlidae	Nemouridae	HOLOGNATHA ¹ Gripopterygidae	FILIPALPIA ² Gripopterygidae	Eustheniidae Leptoperlidae Austroperlidae	*
			Cannidae	Cannidae	Cannidae
			Taeniopterygidae		
		Nemouridae	Nemouridae Lenitriidae	Nemouridae	Nemouridae
		SYSTELLOGNATHA ³ Pteronarcidae	Pteronarcidae	Pteronarcidae	Pteronarcidae
	Perlidae	Perlidae	SUBFILIPALPIA ⁴		
			Perlidae	Perlidae	Perlidae
			Perjedidae		

*Not treated here, because not regional; Distribution confined to the southern parts of the Southern Hemisphere, Australia, New Zealand, Chili, etc.
Sub-orders proposed by Enderlein:

¹HOLOGNATHA; with well developed mandibles.

²SYSTELLOGNATHA; with rudimentary mandibles.

Sub-orders proposed by Klapalek:

³SUBFILIPALPIA; terminal palpal segments as thick as the others.

⁴FILIPALPIA; terminal palpal segments successively more slender.

Neither of these conflicting primary divisions of the order appears to be based on fundamental characters. Tillyard (l. c. n. 2) a useful table of characters by families. All these authors agreed that two divergent lines of specialization culminate in the families Nemouridae and Perlidae respectively.