

Non-Insect Arthropoda

Many arthropods have common names. These names are given in the key immediately before the Latin name. Groups that are very infrequently collected in Maryland streams are only keyed to higher taxonomic levels, e.g. order or class. Some groups, such as decapods and amphipods, are keyed to family in this section.

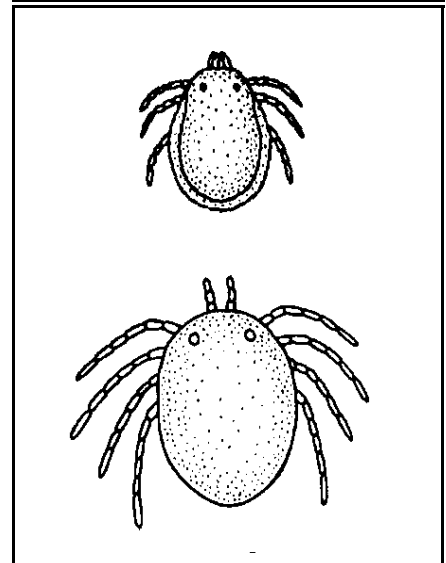
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- 1**
- a. Four pairs of legs (sometimes hard to see from above) and body segmentation is not readily apparent; antennae absent
..... *Water Mites*, subclass **Acari**
 - b. More than 4 pairs of legs; 2 pairs of antennae
..... 2

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- 2**
- a. With a complete carapace, shaped like an incomplete cylinder or with two halves like a bivalve
..... 3
 - b. No carapace or one which leaves last 2 thoracic segments exposed
..... 5

-
- 3**
- a. Carapace nearly cylindrical, covering both the dorsal and lateral surfaces of the head and thorax
..... order **Decapoda**...4
 - b. Carapace bivalve-like
...*Water Fleas, Clam Shrimp, and Seed Shrimp* (all not included in this key).

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- 4**
- a. Abdomen flattened side to side; 2 pairs of legs with pincers
..... *Shrimp*, family **Palaemonidae**
 - b. Abdomen flattened top to bottom; 3 pairs legs with pincers
..... *Crayfish*, family **Cambaridae**
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Acari (1a)



Cambaridae (4b)



- a. Eyes stalked; carapace not covering last 2 thoracic segments; six pairs of legs
Fairy and Opposum Shrimp, order Mysidacea, family **Mysidae**
- 5**
- b. Eyes not stalked; no carapace
..... 6

- a. 7 thoracic segments
..... 7
- 6**
- b. 4-6 thoracic segments
..... *Water Fleas and Copepods*
(not covered in this key)

- a. Body flattened top to bottom; 6-7 pairs of legs
..... *Sow Bugs*, order Isopoda, family **Asellidae**

7

Isopods include the terrestrial potato bug common in gardens and forest litter. The aquatic isopods usually are burrowers and detritus feeders on the bottom of streams and lakes.

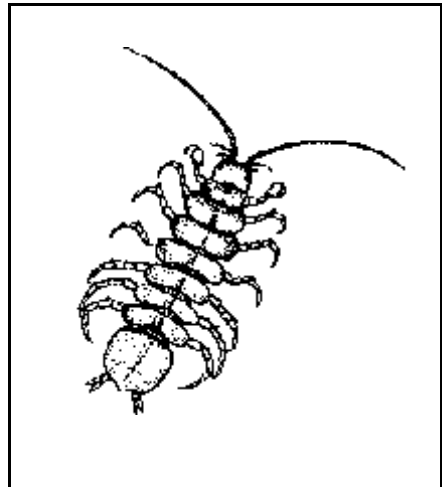
- b. Body flattened side to side (laterally); 5 pairs of legs
..... *Scuds*, order **Amphipoda**...8

Amphipods can be observed swimming short distances and crawling among algae or clumps of organic debris in eddies or water edges. They feed on microbes and detritus associated with decaying organic material.

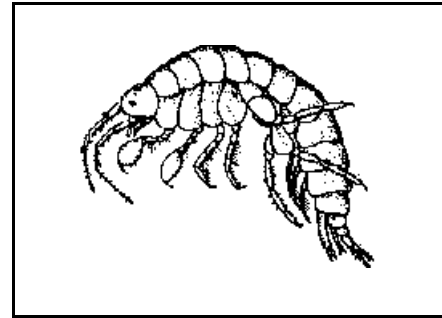
- a. Antennae highest on the head (first antennae) shorter than the lower pair; each upper antenna lacks a small appendage (accessory flagellum) branching from the third segment
..... family **Talitridae**
(also known as **Hyalellidae**)
- 8**

- b. Highest pair of antennae longer than lower pair; small accessory flagellum (sub-antenna) branching from third segment of upper antenna
..... 9

Asellidae (7a)



Amphipoda (7b)



9

- a. Accessory flagellum with 2-7 segments, usually more than 2; prominent spines pointed upward near the end of the abdomen; telson (flat lobe behind spine) split from tip to base
 family **Gammaridae**
- b. Accessory flagellum with 1-2 segments; no spines pointing upward near end of abdomen; telson not split or split only from tip to 1/3 its length
 family **Crangonyctidae**

