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BEE-FLIES (DIPTERA: BOMBYLIIDAE) OF NORTHWEST EUROPE

The morphology of flies is explained at the [CSIRO site](#). Select the lower Brachycera as the fly group.

KEY TO THE GENERA

- 1.a Proboscis longer than the head in side view; hind border of eyes in side view straight -> 2
- 1.b Proboscis shorter than the head in side view; hind border of eyes in side view with a notch -> 5



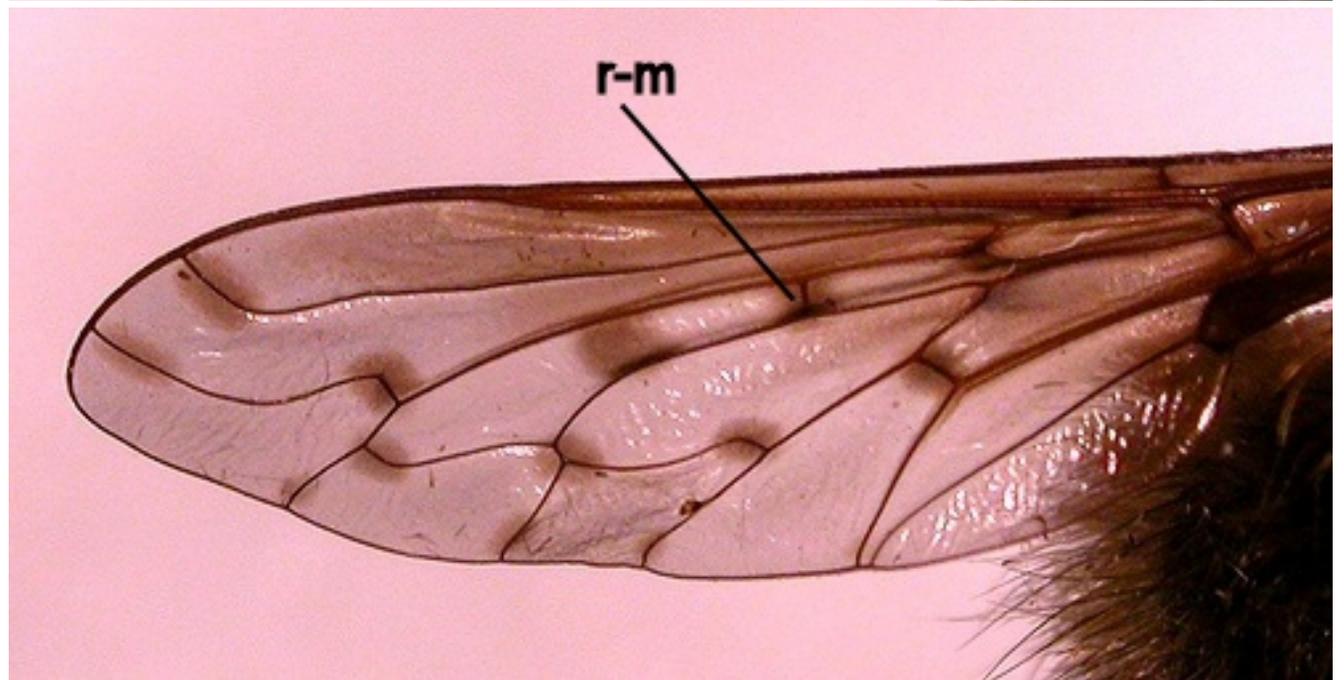
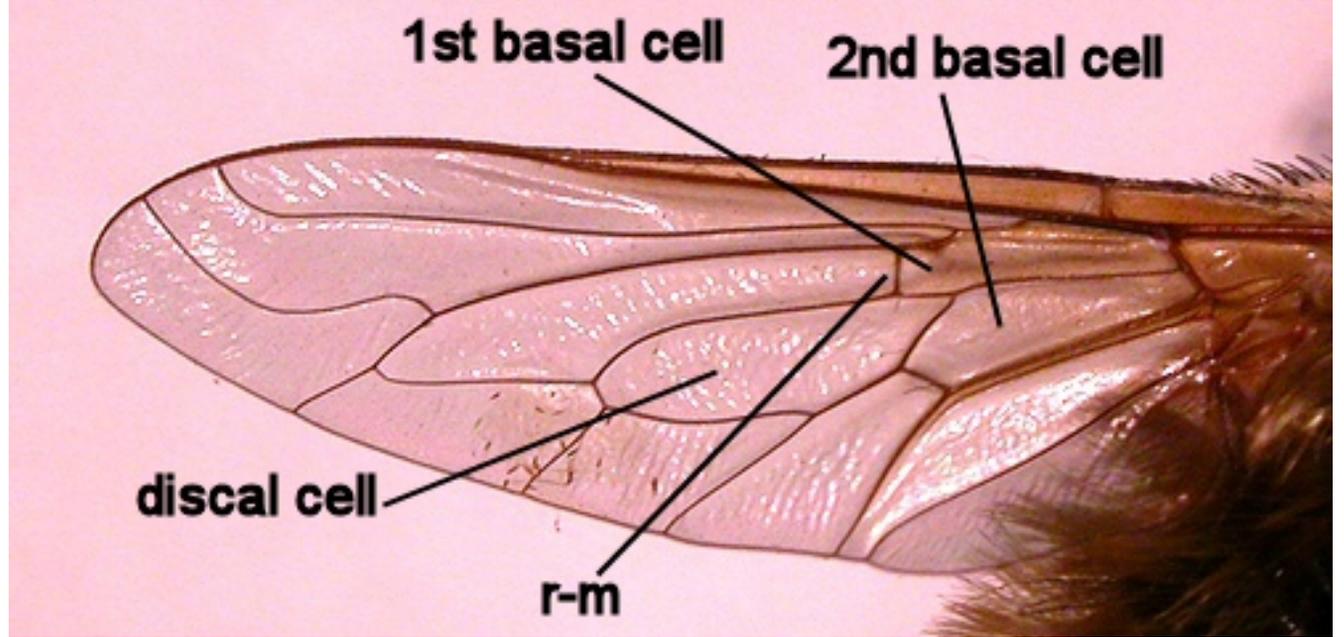
Proboscis longer than head and hind border of eyes straight, above/left and proboscis shorter than head and hind border of eyes with a notch, below/right.

- 2.a Body length smaller than 5mm., relatively sparse haired; tibia 3 without bristles -> [Phthiria](#)
- 2.b Body length longer than 5mm., relatively dense haired; tibia 3 with bristles -> 3
- 3.a First antennal segment inflated, longer and wider than the 3rd segment -> [Conophorus](#)
- 3.b First antennal segment cylindrical, shorter and smaller than the 3rd segment -> 4



First antennal segment inflated, above/left; first antennal segment cylindrical below/right.

- 4.a Cross vein *rm* ends near the basis of the discal cell, at about 1/6th to 1/5th of the length of the discal cell, therefore the 1st basal cell (cell *br*) and 2nd basal cell (cell *bm*) equal in length -> [*Systoechus*](#)
- 4.b. Cross vein *rm* ends near the first third of the discal cell, therefore the 1st basal cell (*br*) much longer than the 2nd basal cell (*bm*) -> [*Bombylius*](#)



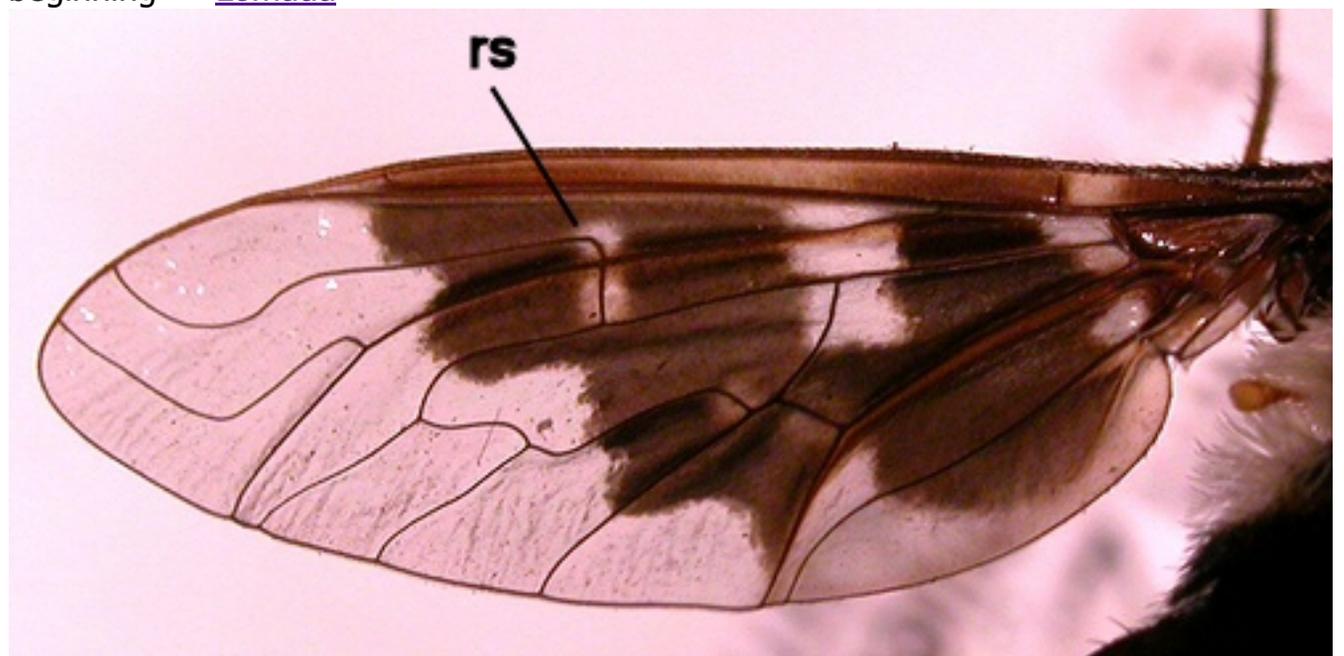
Cross vein rm near bsis of discal cell, above/left; cross vein rm near middle of discal cell, below, right.

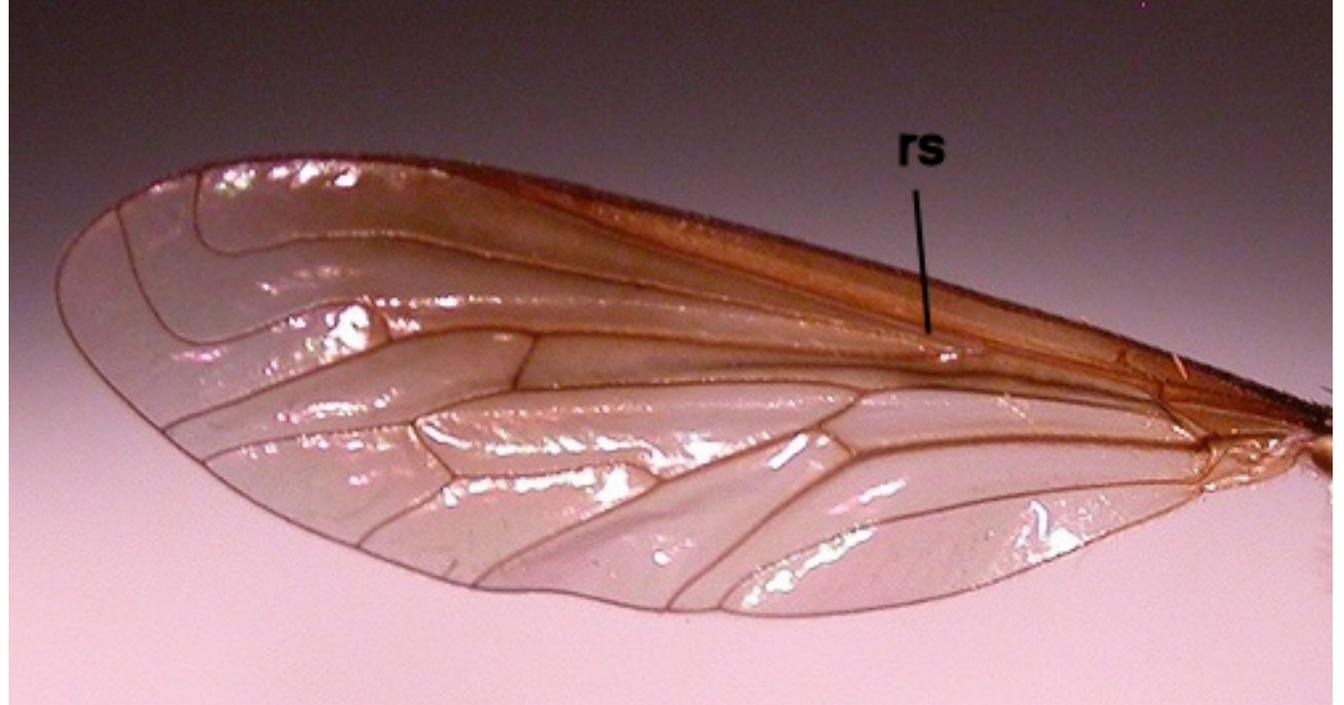
5.a Body length smaller than 3mm.; Wing with discal cell fused with the 2nd basal cell (cell bm), forming one large cell -> [Glabellula](#)

5.b Body length longer than 5 mm.; Wing: discal cell separate from the 2nd cell basal -> 6

6.a Vein rs begins with a perpendicular angle on the vein beneath it, followed by a sharp bend -> 7

6.b Vein rs begins with a sharp angle on the vein beneath, lacing a sharp bend in the beginning -> [Lomatia](#)





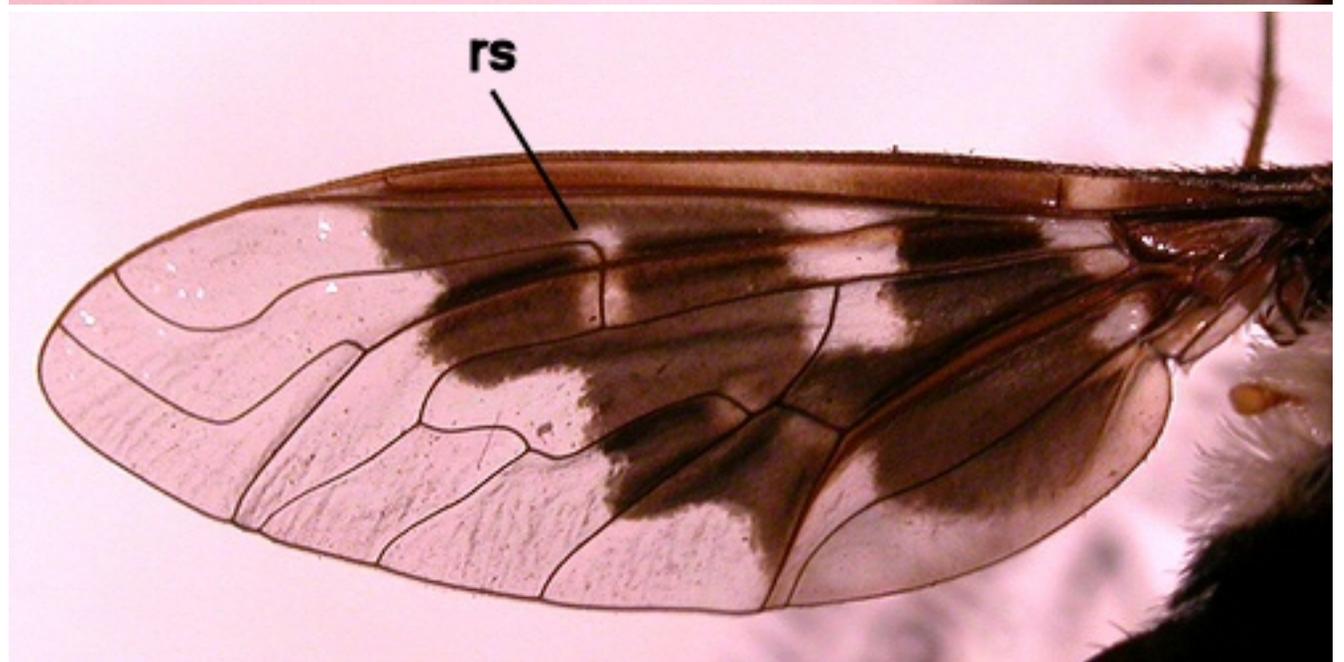
Vein rs starts perpendicular, above, left; vein rs starts with sharp angle, below, right.

7.a Wing hyaline, at most the front border diffusely brownish -> [Villa](#)

7.b Wing with dark patches, acutely bordered from the hyaline parts, the dark patches may cover most of the wing -> 8

8.a Cross vein rr present, adding an extra closed cell to the wing tip -> [Exoprosopa](#)

8.b Cross vein rr absent, no extra closed cell present in the wing tip -> 9



Cross vein rr present, above/left; cross vein rr absent, below/right.

9.a Wing: discal cell completely darkened, without hyaline parts; Antenna: last segment on the tip haired -> [Anthrax \(part\)](#)

9.b Wing: discal cell partly or completely hyaline; Antenna: last segment on the tip haired or not -> 10



Anthrax, head and antennae: see hairs on tip of antennae.

10.a Discal cell hyaline or darkened only at the basis and tip along the veins -> 11

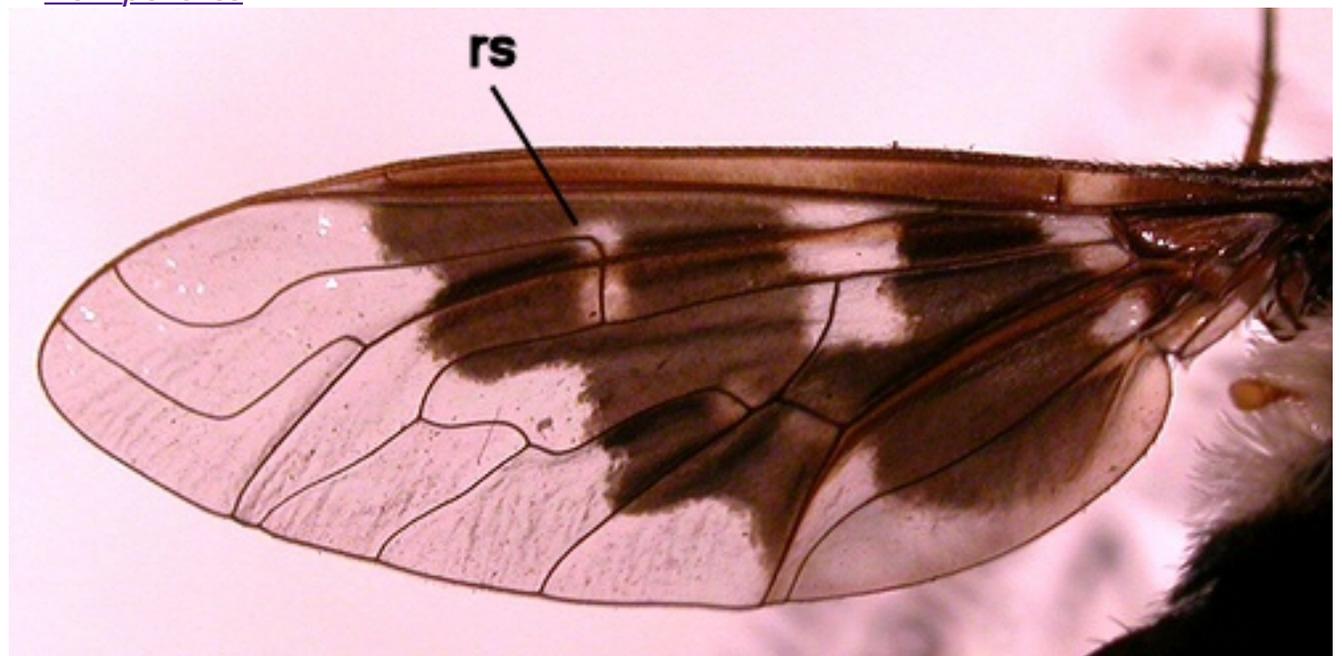
10.b Discal cell darkened for about half its surface or more -> 12

11.a Antenna: last segment on the tip haired; wing darkened parts extend from front border into the wing -> [Anthrax \(part\)](#)

11.b Antenna: last segment bare on tip; wing: only front border darkened, with straight border with the remaining part of the wing -> [Exhyalanthrax](#)

12.a Wing: dark part of wing with hyaline spots -> [Thyridanthrax](#)

12.b Wing: dark part of wing without hyaline spots, sometimes coloured whitish at cross veins -> [Hemipenthes](#)





Wing: dark part with hyaline patches, above, left; dark parts without hyaline patches, below/right.

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Last updated 22.1.2008