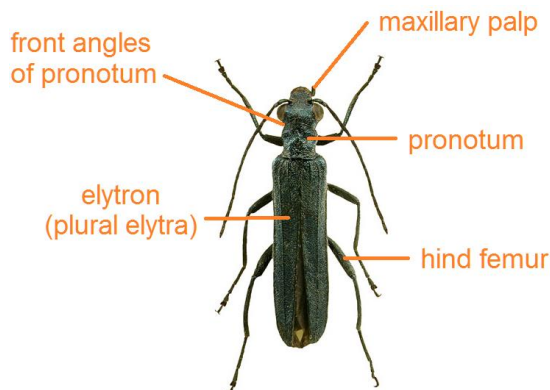


Family Oedemeridae

Key to species adapted and updated from Joy (1932) A Practical Handbook of British Beetles. Supplemental information for genus *Ischnomera* and genus *Oedemera* from Arved Lompe's key (Käfer Europas: Oedemeridae, 2013) translated and reproduced here with permission – links from the family key at <http://www.coleo-net.de/coleo/texte/oedemeridae.htm>.



Checklist of species

From the Checklist of Beetles of the British Isles, 2012 edition, edited by A. G. Duff (available from www.coleopterist.org.uk/checklist.htm). This lists 10 species in 4 genera.

Tribe NACERDINI

Genus **NACERDES** Dejean, 1834

melanura (Linnaeus, 1758)

Tribe DITYLINI

Genus **CHRYSANTHIA** Schmidt, W., 1846

nigricornis Westhoff, 1881

Tribe ASCLERINI Gistel, 1848

Genus **ISCHNOMERA** Stephens, 1832

caerulea (Linnaeus, 1758)

cinerascens (Pandellé, 1867)

cyanea (Fabricius, 1792) 645

sanguinicollis (Fabricius, 1787)

Tribe OEDEMERINI

Genus **OEDEMERA** Olivier, 1789

femoralis (Olivier, 1803)

lurida (Marsham, 1802)

nobilis (Scopoli, 1763)

virescens (Linnaeus, 1767)

Image Credits

Most of the photographs of whole beetles in this key are reproduced from the Iconographia Coleopterorum Poloniae, with permission kindly granted by Lech Borowiec. The photographs of parts of beetles of genus *Ischnomera* are from Arved Lompe's key.



Creative Commons. © Mike Hackston (2014), derived from the keys of Joy (1932) and Arved Lompe (2013)

Family Oedemeridae

Key to British species

- 1 Beetle combining green to greenish-yellow body and orange legs variegated with black.
..... ***Chrysanthia nigricornis***
A rare species of Scottish forests. Larvae feed on fallen Scot's pine; adults found on nearby flowers.



Beetle otherwise coloured.2

2¹ Elytra comparatively long in proportion to pronotum, with a transverse raised line near the base which connects two of the longitudinal raised lines. Head, pronotum, legs and abdomen black; elytra brown.

..... ***Oedemera femorata***

Length 12-17 mm.; England and Wales, northwards to Lancashire; local on ivy and willows at night; April to September.



Elytra not so long, without a transverse raised line. Beetle otherwise coloured.³

3² Head, measured across the eyes, as broad as, or slightly narrower than the pronotum. Innermost raised line on elytra extending to the apex or almost so. Margin of eye slightly notched around the base of the antennae.4

Head, measured across the eyes, somewhat broader than the pronotum. Innermost raised line on elytra extending to about one-third from base. Eyes not notched around the base of the antennae.5



4³ Sides of pronotum doubly curved close to front angle. Head and elytra green to bluish-green.7



Sides of pronotum evenly rounded. Elytra orange-brown with darker tip.

..... ***Nacerdes melanura***

Length 7-12 mm.; widely distributed from the south coast of England to just north of the Solway Firth, but local on old timber on the coast; more rarely inland, July to September.

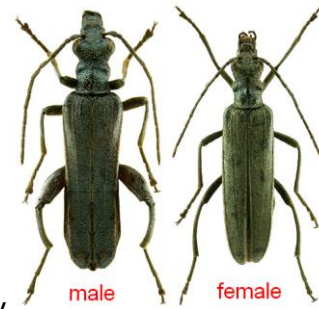


5³ Shining bright green, bluish or coppery. Males with the hind femora much enlarged. Elytra distinctly narrowing towards the tips, particularly in males.
..... ***Oedemera nobilis***
Length 8-10 mm.; England and Wales, common.

Dull sage-green. Male with hind femora enlarged or not.
Elytra not or only indistinctly narrowing towards the tips so the gap between them at the apex is not as significant.6



6⁵ Male with hind femora distinctly enlarged. Length 7-9 mm. Pronotum as long as wide; front angles extending forwards; pronotum with a surface sculpture of tiny ridges. Elytra densely punctured, with a minutely ridged sculpture towards the tip, scarcely shining. Upper surface densely covered with fine grey hairs. Female with the end of the last segment of the abdomen (viewed from below) appearing sheared off with the middle section weakly notched or with a rounded point.



..... ***Oedemera virescens***

Rare, recorded from scattered localities from Bristol northwards to the Southern Uplands of Scotland.

Male with hind femora not significantly different from other femora. Pronotum at least as long as wide with a coarse wrinkled surface texture. Length 5-7 mm. Female with the last segment of the abdomen elongate with a narrow rounded tip. Elytra covered with dense grey hairs.



..... ***Oedemera lurida***

Common in England and Wales.

7⁴ Pronotum and elytra both blue-black.8



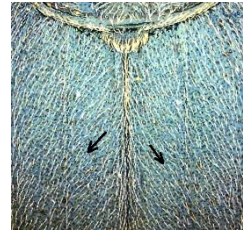
Pronotum brownish, contrasting with the darker head and elytra.

..... ***Ischnomera sanguinicollis***

Length 8-11 mm.; England and Wales northwards to Yorkshire.



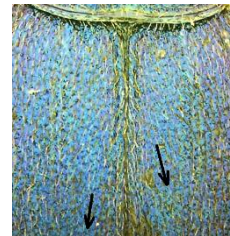
8⁷ Hairs on the elytra longer and pale grey; in the first interstice directed obliquely back and outwards. Elytra very densely and finely punctured/ridged and with a dull, blue, silky sheen. Head and pronotum shining. The ridges on the elytra are more distinct. The first two segments of the antennae yellow. Maxillary palps with the second segment, most of the third segment and the last segment underneath yellow. Length 6-10 mm.



..... ***Ischnomera cinerascens***

Scattered records mostly in the southern Midlands.

Hairs on the elytra very fine and short and darker, those in the first interstice only slightly directed outwards. The punctures on the elytra are dense and coarse and there is usually a transverse ridged surface sculpture. Darker blue species, sometimes with a greenish sheen. Palps and the first segment of the antennae sometimes pale.9



9⁸ Head and pronotum rather less densely and more finely punctured. Pronotum relatively broader, shining on top. Male: aedeagus narrowing just before the tip; parameres asymmetrical and bearing hairs.

..... ***Ischnomera caerulea***

England and Wales northwards to the Mersey.



Head and pronotum more densely and coarsely punctured so that the pronotum appears duller. Pronotum comparatively narrower in males. Males with the aedeagus not tapering before the tip and the parameres more or less parallel-sided, hairless and appearing narrower.

..... ***Ischnomera cyanea***

The commonest species of the genus, widely distributed in England and Wales as far north as Yorkshire.

