

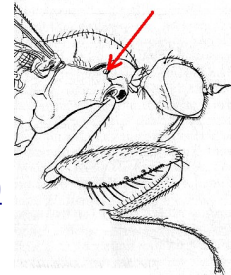
**Genus *Chelifera***  
**Key to males from Collin (1960)**

Click for comments regarding [females](#)

1 The depression behind humeri black or brownish black. ...

.....[2](#)

The depression behind humeri yellowish. ....[9](#)



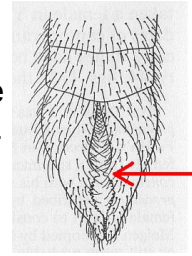
2 Thorax (including pleurae) almost entirely dark greyish; third antennal joint darkened towards tip. ....[3](#)

Thorax never entirely greyish, at most with dark grey stripes on disc. Third antennal joint all pale but style sometimes brownish. ....[4](#)

- 3 Third antennal segment only darkened at the extreme tip; thoracic spiracles yellowish; upper lamellae of genitalia viewed from above with a distinct small tooth near the middle of the inner edge. ....

..... ***Chelifera precabunda*** Collin

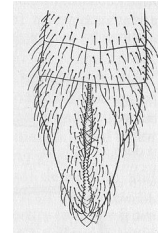
Collin considers that this is an overlooked species with a wide distribution.



Third antennal segment more extensively darkened; thoracic spiracles grey; upper lamellae viewed from above with no distinct projection near the middle of the inner edge. ....

..... ***Chelifera precatorea***

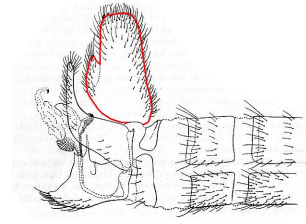
One of the more common species of the genus; widely distributed.



- 4 Upper lamellae of genitalia very long, almost erect, broad and rounded at the tip and with a tooth-like projection at middle of the posterior side. ....

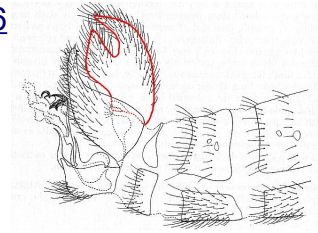
..... ***Chelifera stigmatica***

Most records north and west of the line joining the Exe and Tees.



Upper lamellae not as described above. ....5

5 Upper lamellae with a deep excision at end. ....6

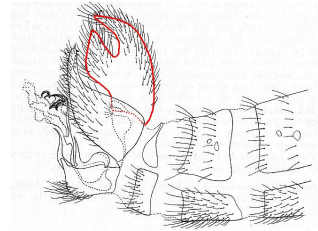


Upper lamellae without a deep excision at end. ....7

- 6 Upper lamellae very long and so deeply excised as to end in two projections, the upper one longer than lower, its tip curved and pointed with black. ....

..... ***Chelifera monostigma***

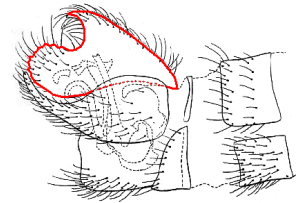
Collin only knew of specimens from Scotland and Herefordshire.



Upper lamellae shorter and not so deeply excised, the upper projection not longer than lower and rounded rather than pointed. Antennal style brownish. ....

..... ***Chelifera diversicauda***

Most records north and west of the line joining the Exe and Tees.

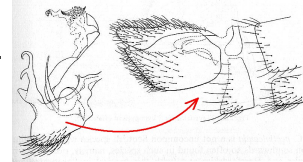


- 7 Upper lamellae with a projection on upper margin so that when viewed from above they show a basal and an apical opening. ....8

Projection to upper lamellae so slight that viewed from above there is only one elongate-ovate opening.

..... ***Chelifera subangusta***

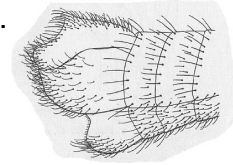
Collin lists individual records from North Wales, Nairn and Herefordshire.



8 Upper lamellae with a large circular apical opening. ....

..... ***Chelifera aperticauda***

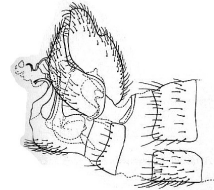
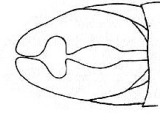
Little known species, known from southern and western England northwards to the North York Moors.



Upper lamellae viewed from above with a small heart-shaped apical opening. ....

..... ***Chelifera concinnicauda***

Most records north and west of the line joining the Exe and Tees.





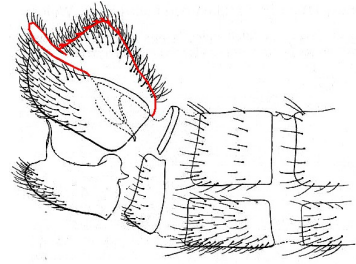
9 Stigma of wing distinct, circular and black or brownish. Middle femora with a row of minute black points underneath around the middle. ....[10](#)

Stigma of wing very indistinct, long, ovate and pale yellowish. Middle femora without black points beneath around the middle. ....[12](#)

10 Upper lamellae in side view wide and truncate at tip, the truncate edge armed on inner side with black points. ....

..... ***Chelifera pectinicauda***

Scattered records from Scotland to the south coast of England.

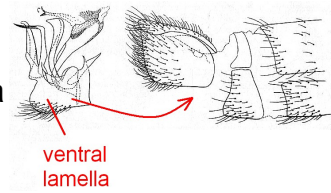


Upper lamellae narrow for whole length and not truncate at tip. ....[11](#)

- 11 Thorax less distinctly striped; abdomen paler; middle femora with 16-17 black points about middle beneath; projection at end of ventral lamella of distinctive shape. ....

..... ***Chelifera angusta***

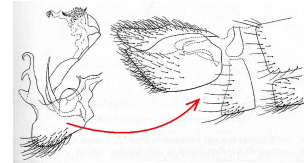
Few scattered records.



Thorax more distinctly striped; abdomen darker; middle femora with only about twelve small black points about middle beneath; projection at end of ventral lamella very different. ....

..... ***Chelifera subangusta***

Described by Collin from a male in Nairn; also North Wales and Herefordshire.

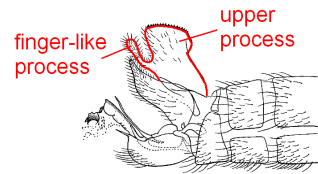


12 Upper lamellae of genitalia with a wide concave excision behind. .... [13](#)

Upper lamellae with a deep narrow excision behind leaving a narrow finger-like process below and a large quadrate upper process which in dried specimens usually lies flat in a horizontal plane. ....

..... ***Chelifera trapezina***

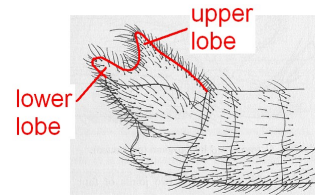
Most records north and west of the line joining the Exe and Tees.



13 Upper lamellae with lower lobe longer than upper; middle femora somewhat bent, concave beneath around the middle and with longer hairs on the concavity. ....

..... ***Chelifera flavella***

Herefordshire, north Midlands to northern England.



Upper lamellae with both lobes short and blunt, middle femora simple. ....

..... ***Chelifera astigma***

Originally described from Herefordshire; recently reported from the North York Moors.

### Notes on the females

The females are much more difficult to distinguish. The characters of the colour of thorax, posthumeral depression and, to a certain extent, stigma, hold good for both sexes; consequently *preparatoria* and *precabunda*, being uniformly darker with darker antennae, can be distinguished from the other species.

Of other females known to Collin:

***diversicauda*** has antennal style brownish, abdomen brown with hind-margins of tergites at sides very indistinctly yellowish;

***concinnicauda*** is very similar but antennal style is quite pale;

***stigmatica*** has abdomen brown with rather sharply marked narrow transverse yellow triangles on hind-margin of tergites at sides;

***monostigma*** has large indistinctly margined yellowish patches on hind-margins at sides (not reaching side-margin), and when viewed from the side these patches appear shimmering greyish;

***pectinicauda***, one of the species with yellowish posthumeral depression and distinct stigma, has a more extensively yellowish abdomen than ***angusta***, in which the abdomen is dull brownish;

***trapezina*** appears to differ from ***flavella*** in having the ovipositor much more extensively yellowish, only the terminal papillae being brownish.