

British Lepidoptera (/)

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FAMILY: YPONOMEUTIDAE (8G +1EX 22S +2EX)

Suborder:Glossata Infraorder:Heteroneura, Superfamily:Yponomeutoidea

MBGB13 includes families Ypsolophidae, Plutellidae, Argyresthiidae, Praydidae and Scythropiidae as subfamilies (Ypsolophinae, Plutellinae, Argyresthiinae, Praydinae and Scythropiinae) of Yponomeutidae. MBGB13 also lists Acrolepiinae a subfamily of Yponomeutidae, it is now considered a subfamily of Glyphipterigidae. The remaining Family: Yponomeutidae is equivalent to Subfamily: Yponomeutinae as considered in MBGB13.

Abdominal tergites spined

Uncus present, with a pair of prongs

Aedeagus usually with a sheath

Larvae are mostly web-spinners

Yponomeuta (8S)

Head smooth or rough-scaled, frons smooth

Proboscis developed

Antenna $\frac{3}{4}$ length of forewing; simple at base, weakly serrate beyond basal quarter, minutely ciliate; scape with or without pecten

Labial palp moderate, curved, ascending; S2 somewhat rough ventrally; S3 => S2

Forewing broad, discal cell long, almost reaching $\frac{5}{6}$; white or whitish with longitudinal rows of black spots

Hindwing as long as forewing, elongate-ovate; hyaline space between cell and base

[\(/001-yponomeuta-evonymella-bird-cherry-ermine.html\)](#)



[\(/002-yponomeuta-padella-orchard-ermine.html\)](#)



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[\(/004-yponomeuta-cagnagella-spindle-ermine.html\)](#)



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Key to *Yponomeuta*

Forewing with black or grey spot in fold (between the 2 dorsal rows of spots) at $\frac{1}{3}$

Conspicuous black apical spot

Y.plumbella

No black apical spot but grey suffusion in disc

Y.irrorella

Head grey, no terminal dots

Y.sedella

5-6 rows of small black dots

Y.evonymella

3-4 rows of black dots

Y.padella/malinellus/cagnagella/rorrella

Y.padella/cagnagella/malinellus/rorrella are all very similar with 3 or 4 rows of black dots on a white or whitish ground colour and not more than 8 dots in the most

dorsal row. There are no absolute genitalic differences between these species and the differences in forewing pattern do not distinguish the species with absolute certainty. *Y.rorrella* has a pattern of grey suffusion that leaves the dorsal half and a pre-terminal costal patch white. *Y.cagnagella* has no grey suffusion of the forewing ground colour, including the terminal cilia, being entirely white apart from the black dots. *Y.malinellus* has contrastingly grey terminal cilia. *Y.padella* has a variable amount of grey suffusion and the terminal cilia are the same colour as the terminal area of the wing. *Y.rorrella* shows 6-8 black dots in each of the 2 dorsal rows (~8 above the fold, 6-8 below the fold), while *Y.padella/cagnagella/malinellus* show 4-7 dots in these rows (4-6 above fold, 4-7 below fold). MBGBI3 suggests (after Povel, 1984) that the number of antennal segments can be used: *Y.padella* 51-57, *Y.malinellus* 50-56, *Y.cagnagella* 56-65. So individuals with 50 antennal segments should be *Y.malinellus*, those with 51-55 could be either *Y.padella* or *Y.malinellus*, with 56 segments it could be all three species, with 57 segments *Y.padella* or *Y.cagnagella* and with 58-65 segments *Y.cagnagella*.

Zelleria (2S)

Kessleria (1S +1EX)

Pseudoswammerdamia (1S)

Male genitalia: valvae with pointed apex and distal triangular process; surface of aedeagus dentate

Female genitalia: posterior part of ductus bursae strongly sclerotised

Swammerdamia (4S)

Male genitalia: valvae rounded at apex, without protruberances

Paraswammerdamia (2S)

Male genitalia: saccus expanded at apex, valvae with protruberance from ventral edge

Female genitalia: lamella postvaginalis conspicuously broadened

These 3 genera are very similar and could be regarded as subgenera of *Swammerdamia*

Adults rest with head down and abdomen raised (as in *Argyresthia*)

Head rough, tufted between antennae; frons with appressed scales; Ocelli present

Antenna 3/4 length of forewing; Labial palps short, nearly straight, porrect; S2=S3

(/014-pseudoswammerdamia-combinella.html)

(/015-swammerdamia-caesiella.html)

(/017-swammerdamia-pyrella.html)



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Key to the Swammerdamia group

External features

Forewing with orange apex

Forewing with interrupted median fascia

Forewing ground colour white

Terminal cilia tinged coppery

Tegulae evenly coloured ws 14-16mm

Distinct white costal spot before apex

3-4 small clusters of white scales near costa before apex

Pseudoswammerdamia combinella

Paraswammerdamia albicapitella

Swammerdamia passerella

Swammerdamia pyrella

Swammerdamia compunctella

Swammerdamia caesiella

Paraswammerdamia nebulella

Provisional key to male genitalia (based on drawings in MBGBI3)

Valva with pointed apex

Saccus expanded at apex

Distinct spined process on ventral surface of valvae

Prongs of uncus as long as aedeagus and curved

Aedeagus much longer than armature

Valvae ~3x longer than broad, apex of aedeagus rounded

Valvae ~2x longer than broad, apex of aedeagus tapered

Pseudoswammerdamia combinella

Paraswammerdamia nebulella

Paraswammerdamia albicapitella

Swammerdamia caesiella

Swammerdamia compunctella

Swammerdamia passerella/pyrella

Provisional key to female genitalia (based on drawings in MBGBI3 and images at dissection group)

DB extremely long (>10x length of CB)

Posterior part of DB strongly sclerotised

Sclerotised portion of DB broad (~1/3 distance between ant apophyses)

Swammerdamia caesiella

Paraswammerdamia combinella

Sclerotised portion of DB narrow (1/4-1/5 distance between ant apophyses)

Lamella postvaginalis with paired posterior processes at least 2x as long as wide, no distinct signum

Lamella postvaginalis with paired posterior processes as long as broad, OB same width as DB

Lamella postvaginalis without posterior processes, OB much broader than posterior portion of DB

Swammerdamia passerella/pyrella

Paraswammerdamia albicapitella

Paraswammerdamia nebulella

Swammerdamia compunctella

***Cedestis* (2S)**

***Ocnerostoma* (2S)**



(/024-ocnerostoma-friesei.html)
Ocnerostoma friesei © Chris Lewis

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