

FAMILY: LUCICUTIIDAE

Body size average to large (1.5 – 10 mm), slender, with elongate abdomen. Prosome rounded dorsally, often with terminal tubercle (papilla), in many cases with sharp lateral protuberances. Thorax separate from prosome; fourth pedigerous segment fused with the fifth. Terminal pedigerous segment narrowed distally, its corners rounded, rarely forming short protuberances. Asymmetrical organs: 5th pair of legs and 1st antenna of male, rarely genital segment; caudal rami often differing slightly in length. Abdominal segments four in female, five in male. Caudal rami in most cases long, with two lateral bristles on each ramus, lower bristle very distant from end of ramus and resting almost at middle of latter. Rami never with truncate distal end. Rostrum invariably present, sometimes with two filaments, in other cases without them, in form of notched plate. Antennules long, often more than body length 24- jointed; left antennule prehensile in male. Second antennae with 8 – jointed exopodite, rami of subequal length. Mouth parts normal, identical in both sexes. Swimming legs with 3- jointed rami (1st pair sometimes with 2 – jointed endopodite); second basipodite of 1st pair of legs bearing apically flat process equipped with bristle.

Fifth pair of legs of female of swimming type; rami 3 – jointed, endopodite rarely 2 – jointed; 5th pair differing from the preceding pairs in the presence of a large naked bristle on the second joint of the exopodite only. Fifth pair of legs of male similar to swimming type, with some differences; right leg prehensile, with 2 – jointed rami, left leg of swimming type, with 3 – jointed rami.