

Snakeflies

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Snakeflies (Fig. 1) occasionally inhabit various areas of houses by accident, but mostly live outside on trees. Though seldom seen, these insects are common in wooded areas, usually in association with bark. The larva (Fig. 2), or immature stage, reaches $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in length when mature, and bears a flat, mottled, elongate, and soft body. When disturbed, larvae can move forward or backward quite rapidly. Both larvae and adults feed mainly on other insects; thus, they are considered beneficial. Snakeflies are not normally known to harm people or to damage houses or their contents. Some folks, however, have apparently received painful bites from the larvae. Management is not suggested. Simply dispose of them out-of-doors.



Fig. 1. Adult snakefly.
By A.L. Antonelli.



Fig. 2. Larval snakefly (*Agulla* sp.)
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