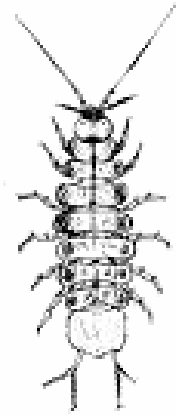


Water louse

Latin name:

Asseleus species



Feeds on:

Plant and animal detritus.

Is eaten by:

Carnivores such as water mites.

Size:

Up to 20mm

Habitat:

Bottom of ponds and flowing water.

Oxygen adaptation:

They have five pairs of gills on their abdomen (belly).

Did you know?

Water lice are closely related to woodlice. They have four pairs of jaws. Females carry their young on their abdomen. They live at the bottom of ponds, as this is where their food is. Water lice are also found in flowing water. Their body is flattened so that they won't be washed away.