

**A KEY TO THE GENERA OF KNOWN NYMPHS OF THE  
OLIGONEURIIDAE**  
(EPHEMEROPTERA)

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Demoulin (1952: 2-3) has given a useful key to the adults of the family Oligoneuriidae. The present key will serve to determine the nymphs of this family, except those of the genera *Oligoneuria* Pietet and *Oligoneuriodes* Demoulin of South America, which remain unknown. This key is not intended as a guide to the relationships among the genera. Our present knowledge of the family does not permit a clear evaluation of these relationships, although some of the possible ones are outlined below.

Edmunds and Traver (1954) believed the genus *Pseudoligoneuria* to be the most primitive member of the family, and placed it in a separate subfamily. The dorsal position of the gills on segment one is shared with the related Isonychiinae (Siphonuridae) in which the living members of the genus *Isonychia* of this subfamily possess traits similar to those which would be expected in the ancestors of the Oligoneuriidae. *Pseudoligoneuria* has a peculiar combination of isonychiine, oligoneuriine, and intermediate characters. Demoulin (1958) placed *Pseudoligoneuria* in the family Paedephemeridae, superfamily Oligoneurioidea; *Isonychia* was placed in the Isonychiinae of the same superfamily, but the remaining Siphonuridae are placed in a different superfamily.

Within the Oligoneuriinae the nymphs of *Oligoneurisca* and *Homoeoneuria* are very similar in their adaptations of legs and gills to a sand habitat. The adult of *Oligoneurisca*, when known, may prove the two genera to be closely related. However, the incipient adult wing venation seen in the wing pads of *Oligoneurisca* nymphs suggests a closer relationship to *Oligoneuriella*. The adult wing venation of the genus *Elassoneuria* suggests it may be related to *Homoeoneuria*, but the nymph is not specialized for a sandy habitat.

The genera *Oligoneuriella* and *Oligoneuriopsis* appear to be very closely related, but because they may be distinguished readily in both nymphal and adult stages, it seems advisable to keep them as full genera. Eventually the two might be ranked as subgenera of a single genus.

The genus *Lachlania* is a clearly delimited genus of widespread occurrence in the Americas. Of the several generic and subgeneric names listed as synonyms by Edmunds and Traver (1954: 237) one or more might be retained as subgenera, but current evidence does not favor such a view. The genus *Lachlania* is probably most closely re-

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