



2-Spotted Skimmer Dragonfly (*Libellula pulchella*)
 Found in southern Canada and all contiguous U. S. states.
 Photographed after a long arduous chase in Britannia Meadow.



**Carpenter Ant (*Camponotus castaneus*) &
 Cigarette Beetle (*Lasioderma serricorne*)**
 Carpenter Ants are omnivores, eating both plants and animals. This fellow has
 captured a Cigarette Beetle (~1/10") - which I didn't notice until it showed
 up in Photoshop. It is so named because of its dietary preference
 for tobacco leaves.
 On a neighbour's concrete garden wall.



Assassin Bug (*Zelus luridus*)

dining on a

Sweat Bee (*Lasioglossum dialictus*)

This predator captures prey by exuding a sticky resin from leg glands. Its main weapon is its proboscis with which it injects a dose of lethal digestive enzymes. Here, the creature is supporting the bee with its proboscis as it drains its bodily fluids.

Sweat Bees are so named because they are attracted to human sweat.

Discovered in our front garden on one of the Garlic Chives.



Horse fly (Hybomitra micans)

There is such a wide variety of big flies that it is difficult to identify a particular species precisely. This version is also frequently identified as a Deer Fly.

Discovered along the Pinecrest Creek Pathway in Ottawa's west end.



Red-legged Grasshopper (Melanoplus femurrubrum)

*Grasshoppers belong to the insect order Orthoptera, i.e. straight wing, and are famous for their powerful hind legs that propel them over long distances. Although they are terrific jumpers, landing is not always an elegant affair.
In a neighbourhood garden.*



Blue Nose dragonfly (perhaps Platycephala eliseva)

Found among the lilies out behind the house.



Exoskeleton remnant of a Stonefly Nymph (Order Plecoptera)

The Plecoptera is an order of insects that include some 3,500 species worldwide. This fellow was about 1" long.

Discovered on a boulder along the south shore of the Ottawa River.



Mayfly (Rhithrogena germanica)
and a
Black Carpenter Ant (Camponotus pennsylvanicus)

As I watched this Mayfly jerk spasmodically in its death throes, an ant happened by. Wasting no time, the ant dispatched the hapless fly with a few quick bites to the Mayfly's head, and then hauled the carcass away.

On our front walk, normally a tranquil place.



Goldenrod Crab Spider (Misumena vatia)

*So named because they frequently lurk on Golden Rod.
This pair preferred the Lupins in a meadow near
Almonte Ontario*



Phorid Fly [Megaelia scalaris]
with the remnants of, perhaps, a
Green Bottle Fly (Phaenicia sericata)

This burly, unpleasant looking fellow settled on a stem in our front garden while he dined on his prey. Being briefly occupied with lunch, he remained long enough to have his photograph taken.

The Bottle, or Blow, fly is found in all temperate and tropical regions. Blow flies are popular with forensic investigators who use the maggot stages to determine times of death.

In our front flowerbed.



Bumble Bee (Bombus fervidus) and Painted Lady (Cynthia)

Bee and Butterfly share the bounty of an Echinacea.

Neighbourhood garden.



Wasp (Allantus viennensis)

*This wasp spent a chilly October night in our front garden.
Although at first glance, he appeared to be dead, he
soon stirred, and, a bit later, was foraging.*



J. G. Porter
(Likeness by C. S. Henry)

gerryporter1@gmail.com