

clubbed mydas fly *Mydas clavatus*

Kingdom: Animalia

Division/Phylum: Arthropoda

Class: Insecta

Order: Diptera

Family: Mydidae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

This large (about one inch in length), black fly has an orange-to-red band on its abdomen. The antennae have four segments, and the furthest segment from the body is enlarged. The tarsi have two pads. The top of the head has a depression between the eyes.

BEHAVIORS

The larvae live in soil or decaying wood and eat the larvae of scarab beetles. Adults feed on flower nectar. Found statewide, this species is a mimic of spider wasps. It lives in woodlands, fields and gardens.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

bottomland forests

Woodland Habitats

bottomland forests; southern Illinois lowlands; upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; edge

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