

## Coniopterygidae (Neuroptera): Overlooked Predators of *Adelges tsugae*?

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### **Abstract**

Coniopterigids are small insects, 3 mm in length or less. Adults and larvae are predators of small, soft-bodied insects such as aphids, phylloxerans, scale insects, and maybe adelgids. Larvae are dorso-ventrally flattened and move rapidly along leaf midveins, secondary veins, and margins in search of prey. Their large, labial palpi are used to detect prey. Pupation occurs in a two-stage, silken cocoon, and the pupa is laterally flattened. Adults are covered with a whitish powder, hence the common name: dusty-wings.

### **Keywords:**

Coniopterigids, predator.