



# Dobsonfly

# The Dobsonfly or Toebiter

*Archicauliodes diversus*

ngaro parirau

## Size

Typically 3 cm – the country's largest running-water insect.

## Habitat

Widely distributed in stony, fast flowing streams and rivers.

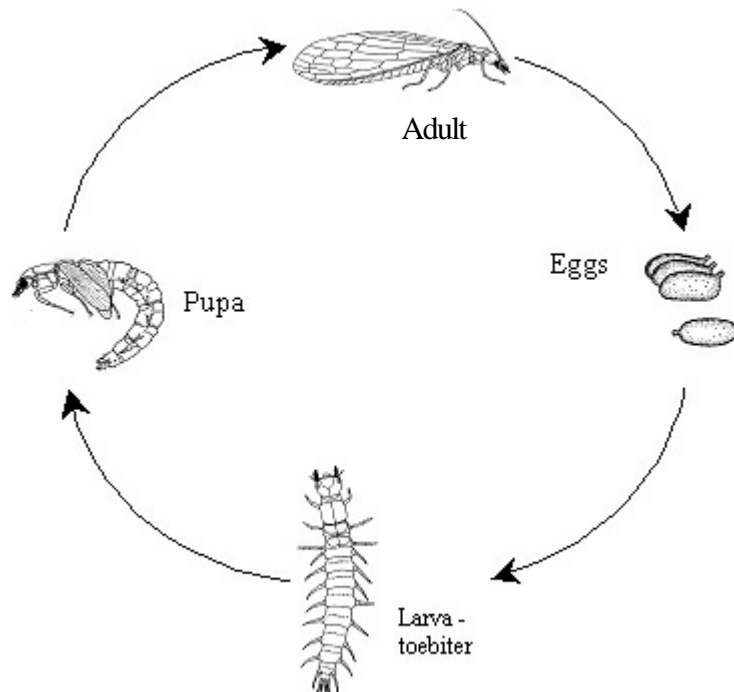
## Feeding Habits

Toebiters are wide ranging **predators**, taking mayfly nymphs, midge larvae, caddis larvae, and whatever other larvae are in greatest supply.

## Special Features

- It looks as though toebiters have lots of legs but there are just the normal insect three pairs – the other 8 pairs of things sticking out are air tubes.
- Adults fly at night and larvae are **nocturnal** predators.
- Adults live 6 – 10 days and do not feed.

## Life Cycle – Complete Metamorphosis



Typical Size

