

***Baissoleon cretaceus* gen. and sp. nov. Fossil Neuroptera
from the Lower Cretaceous of Baisa, East Siberia.
2. *Nymphitidae***

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The family *Nymphitidae* Handlirsch, 1906 was considered to contain six genera (Martynova, 1962): *Sialium* Westwood, 1854, *Nymphites* Haase, 1890, *Chrysoleonites* Martynov, 1925, *Mesonymphes* Carpenter, 1929, *Epigambria* Handlirsch, 1939, and *Sojuta* Martynova, 1958. Of these *Sojuta* is now placed within the *Osmylidae* (Makarkin, 1989), and *Mesonymphes* belongs for certain to the *Nymphitidae*. Of four rest genera only *Chrysoleonites* is satisfactorily described. However, this genus was recently placed by Panfilov (1980) within the *Mesochrysopidae* Handlirsch, 1906. A dependable classification of these families can be made only after a study of the type specimens of the genera *Nymphites* and *Mesochrysopa* Handlirsch, 1906.

A new genus described below is considered to belong to the *Nymphitidae*. But it is also related in some respects to the genera of the *Mesochrysopidae*. Up to present, the *Nymphitidae* have been restricted to the Jurassic of Britain, Germany and USSR (Kazakhstan).

Family *Nymphitidae* Handlirsch, 1906
Genus *Baissoleon* Makarkin, *gen. nov.*

Type species: *Baissoleon cretaceus*, *sp. nov.*

Description: Wings narrow. Costal area relatively narrow. Subcostal veinlets unforked proximal to the pterostigma and forked distal to the pterostigma. Pterostigma distinct. Sc fused with R apically, Sc+R ending on costal margin near wing apex. No cross-veins between Sc and R present. Rs arising close to the base of the wings. First branch of Rs arising at about middle of the wing length. MP forked distally at about one-fourth of the wing length. CuA relatively long with a series of short terminal branches to the hind margin of the wing. CuP short. A₁ forked. There are a number of cross-veins between the longitudinal veins. In the hind wing MP forked close to the wing base and CuA shorter than in the fore wing.

Comparison: *Baissoleon* is closely related to the genus *Chrysoleonites*, but differs from it by MP in the fore wing forked more distal and by CuA longer. Moreover a cross-veins between the branches of MP are absent in the *Chrysoleonites*. A new genus differs from the *Nymphites* by CuA in the hind wing longer and by MP provided with fewer terminal branches to the wing margin.

Species included: Only the type species.

***Baissoleon cretaceus* Makarkin**

Holotype: Specimen N 1989/54; Paleontological Institute, Moscow; almost complete fore and hind wings, overlying each other.

Locality and horizon: Siberia, Buryat ASSR, left bank of the Vitim river, mouth of the Baissa river; Lower Cretaceous, valanginian-barremian.

The same description as that of the genus. Fore wing length, 17,7 mm; width, 4,8 mm; hind wing length, 12,8 mm; width, 4,1 mm.

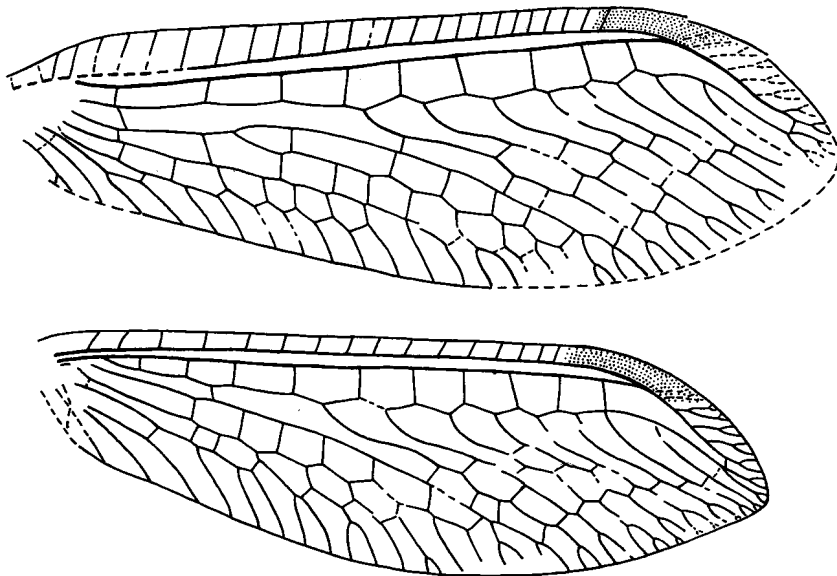


Fig. 1, *Baissoleon cretaceus* gen. and sp. nov., holotype, fore and hind wings.

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