

Robber Flies

Robber flies are common insects of fields and rangelands that hunt flying insects. They are large flies, many approaching and some even exceeding an inch in length, with a very elongated body. In and around fields of crops grown in eastern Colorado species in the genus *Proctocanthus*, *Efferia*, and *Diogmites* are most often encountered.

Larvae of robber flies develop in soil. At least one common species in eastern Colorado, *Diogmites angustipennis*, is well adapted to developing in cultivated crops. Most species of robber flies develop in off-field, non-cultivated sites and only adults move into cultivated fields to hunt prey.

Diptera: Asilidae



Robber fly feeding on a fly