LEYCESTERIA FORMOSA

SUBSTANCE
Leycesteria formosa. Himalayan honeysuckle. Flowering nutmeg. Elisha's tears.
Family Caprifoliaceae. Order Dipsacales.

The honeysuckle family Caprifoliaceae contains 5 genera – Leycesteria, Lonicera, Symphoricarpus, Triosteum and Heptacodium, and about 220 species of mostly shrubs and vines, rarely herbs. The homeopathic representatives of the family are 4 species of Lonicera, Symphoricarpus racemosus [snowberry], Triosteum perfoliatum [feverfew], and Leycesteria formosa.

The family has been recently expanded with Valerianaceae and Dipsaceae. In addition, Adoxa, Sambucus and Viburnum have been almost invariably classified in homeopathy in the Caprifoliaceae, in accordance with the old literature. Strictly taken, this may be incorrect from a current botanical point of view. In terms of homeopathic symptomatology, however, it does make sense. Here the remedies of the various former families are all categorised in one group, the order Dipsacales.

L. formosa is an erect, deciduous shrub with soft, hollow, green stems, 1–2 m [3.3–6.6 ft] tall, which only last for 2–5 years before collapsing and being replaced by new stems from the roots. Native range is NW Himalaya, eastward to India, Nepal, Burma, Bhutan, Assam, SW Tibet and W. China. It is widely cultivated and naturalised. Habitat is in moist shady places as forest undergrowth between 1500–3000 m [4921–9842 ft]. It has fragrant white flowers, tinged with purple and subtended by purplish bracts, in pendulous racemes to 10 cm [3.9 inch] long. The fruit is a red-purple berry.

A garden *escape* 'jumping the garden fence' and deemed a significant weed and increasing problem in SE Australia and New Zealand, L. formosa spreads easily and speedily by animal dispersed seed and water dispersal of fruit and seed. One fragment of root or stem, moreover, can sprout into a whole new plant on contact with moist soil. New plants quickly form dense thickets. It colonises light wells, slips and other gaps, replacing native species that are trying to establish and causing invasion by other exotic species, especially vines by getting rid of native competition.

A good many Dipsacales readily wander away from their native region, their home. Escapees from cultivation, they aggressively invade new regions, colonising, developing self-sustaining populations, becoming dominant and disruptive and displacing indigenous floras. In this category of noxious invaders we find Sambucus, Lonicera, Dipsacus, Centranthus and others. They just can't seem to stay at home. These botanical tendencies come through in the symptoms. Both Sambucus nigra and Valeriana officinalis have 'Mind, Attempts to escape'.

Issues related to home, domestic matters, comfort and discomfort warrant attention in the Dipsacales, as is indicated by at least 4 or 5 remedies in this group. Feelings of estrangement in regard to one's family were elicited in the proving of Leycesteria formosa. Dipsacus sylvestris is nostalgic for old friendships and old buildings. An important indication for use of Bach Flower Honeysuckle, Lonicera caprifolium, is homesickness, combined with far too great preoccupation with the past. Similarly, feelings of homesickness occur in the proving of Triosteum perfoliatum. Valeriana produces a feeling of comfort. Herbalist Dorothy Hall states that Valeriana patients don't like to be away from home. "Many are afraid to sleep, especially in strange surroundings," she says.

Symptoms from a proving by Raymond Sevar [UK], 2 female and 3 male provers, 30c, 2002.

AFFINITY
Gastrointestinal.

SYMPTOMS
M Feeling distant from family; cannot reach out and connect with them, as if they are somebody else's family.
M Over the top, singing and jumping around with lots of energy.
G Return of pain and stiffness in sites of previous fractures and joint/spine injuries. Rapid healing of current injuries.
G Clumsiness; dropping and breaking things, < before menses.
G Overwhelming sleepiness at 4 p.m.
G Falling asleep easily but starting and startling from sleep through first few hours of being asleep.
G Increase in appetite – cannot stop eating till all the food is gone. "I feel as if I need to eat a lot all the time and store up fat for winter." "I don't feel hungry, yet when food is in front of me I cannot stop eating. I am eating vast amounts of bread, butter, cheese and pasta. I cannot say exactly that each is a specific craving – I do not seek it out or fancy it. I seem to have lost the ability to leave food on the table. If I see food I just have to eat it. I feel fat, bloated and miserable. My clothes are getting tight and I am still eating."
G Surges in energy and inner physical buoyancy especially during menses.
S Stomach as if expanding like a balloon.
S Abdomen as if rippling with waves passing from stomach to pelvis, < lying on back, > lying on abdomen.
L Frontal headache with tightness around temples and eyes aching deep in sockets, and thirst.
L Green, watery diarrhoea in morning. Stools explosive, sputtering.
L Low back pain, very severe, < standing up or beginning to move; low back feels jarred.
L Aching pain at base of right thumb, < keeping it still, while writing, washing in warm water, > stretching, hard pressure, bathing in cold water.

Remedy Overview
The disposition to startle with fright at night and to startle out of sleep is similar to the startling of Sambucus nigra:
† 'I fall asleep easily but have starts and startling from sleep through the first few hours that I am asleep. There will be a frightening image in my mind and I either say or scream something and sit up in bed. Once I thought I saw someone standing in my room and screamed, but when I properly woke and focused, I saw it was my wardrobe. I had had this kind of startling from sleep since I was 16, occurring several times a week. During the proving they became intense for a few days and then I didn't have one for over 3 months.'

The menstrual cramps and changes to menstrual flow of 4 of the 5 provers of show similarity to symptoms of Viburnum opulus:
† 'I have had a lot of menstrual flooding without any other symptoms.'
† 'I have had massive bright red menstrual bleeding just flooding out for 3 days. On the fourth day the colour began to change to dark red and the flow to slow down and three days later the bleeding had stopped.'

† 'On days 15, 17 and 21 I had brown menstrual spotting of blood which then continued for a while as a brown sticky vaginal discharge – this does not usually happen to me.'
† 'At 12.45 I had a severe lower abdominal pain like a menstrual cramp. The pain lasted half an hour then gradually subsided. The next day the same pain recurred at 6 p.m.'

The nausea of two of the provers bears some similarity [albeit less severe] to that of Symphoricarpus racemosa.

† 'At 4.30 a.m. I awoke with a feeling of nausea in my stomach which lasted 15 minutes. At 7 a.m. I felt nauseous as I was beginning to move and the nausea feeling moved up to my throat. The nausea went away when I got up from bed.'
† 'At 11 a.m. I could feel my heart racing and I felt an aching pain low in my abdomen with a feeling of nausea in my throat which lasted 15 minutes.'
† 'At 10 p.m. I began feeling nauseous in my throat and upper stomach and with it there was an aching sensation between my throat pit and the top of my stomach. I still had the nausea the next day. The day after that I had a lot of nausea felt in my stomach, throat and head while meditating and it was accompanied by a very sickly smell.' [Raymond Sevar]

RUBRICS STRANGE, RARE & PECULIAR

Mind • *Delusions:* Does not belong to her own family; being outside of body. *Shrieking*, on falling asleep. *Starting* on falling asleep.
Throat • *Nausea* felt in throat, & pain in abdomen.
Stomach • *Nausea*, morning on and after waking; extending upward.
Abdomen • *Undulating* sensation, < lying on back; extending downward; ripples.
Stool • *Forcible,* gushing in a torrent. *Watery*, morning.
Female • *Pain*, beginning of menses; as if menses would appear.
Back • *Pain* lumbar region, after midnight, 4 a.m.; < beginning of motion; rising from sitting. *Pain* sacroiliac articulation, > motion; > pressure; > walking. Twisting *pain*, lumbar region.
Limbs • *Awkwardness*, before menses. Aching *pain* lower limbs, knees, > motion.

Rubrics from van Zandvoort's Complete 2013 Repertory.

FOOD & FLUID

Desire • Bread with butter and cheese. Pasta. Seeds; pumpkin; sunflower.

CUES & CLUES

Bounding with energy. Escape. Invasive; displacing. Jumping the fence. Wandering from home.

LIBELLULA QUADRIMACULATA

SUBSTANCE

Libellula quadrimaculata [exuvia]. Four-spotted chaser. Four-spotted skimmer.
Family Libellulidae. Order Odonata. Class Insecta. Phylum Arthropoda.

Odonata are an aquatic order of insects with about 5500 described species worldwide. All known species are predators as adults and larvae. As such, they perform a valuable

role as biological control agents for many harmful insects, esp. those with aquatic larvae. They are unappreciated allies of mankind, assuredly saving lives through their control of mosquitoes and other disease vectors. Through their habits of eating a wide variety of flying herbivorous insects, they reduce the losses of many wetland crops. In addition they are excellent indicators of freshwater quality.

The skimmers, gliders or perchers and their relatives form the Libellulidae, the largest dragonfly family in the world. The family comprises about 140 genera and over 1000 species. With nearly worldwide distribution, these are almost certainly the most often seen of all dragonflies. The dragonflies in this family are rather robust, with fairly thick abdomens. They are from small to large in size, with body length 2–6 cm [0.8–2.4 inch] and wingspan 3–10 cm [1.2–3.9 inch]. Their body is distinctively shorter than their wingspan. They are usually red, yellow or blue in colour. Some species have wing patterns. The males are often brightly coloured and tend to perch in the open on exposed branches, logs, or sandy shorelines.

Libellulid nymphs – active, fast-growing, short-and-wide, hooked-and-spined – prefer shallower, warmer water than do the nymphs of other dragonfly families. Like all dragonflies, both the adults and nymphs are unapologetic carnivores. Larvae climb out of the water and cling to vegetation or rocks along the shore. Not only are the larvae found, but so are their shed skins, which are called exuviae.

Libellulids spend more time at rest than the dragonflies in other families. Most of them perch with the body horizontal with wings outstretched. Some of them holding the abdomen angled upward and some with wings forward and depressed. The males are territorial and will often return to the same or a nearby spot. Females are usually less colourful than males but will have the same wing markings. Most libellulids live in still water instead of flowing, so they are usually seen around ponds, from tiny garden pools to lakes. Females oviposit alone or in the company of guarding males, dipping the abdomen in the water for releasing the eggs.

Libellulinae is the subfamily called chasers in Europe, and skimmers in USA. Chasers are large perchers, with a dominant genus in the old world [Orthetrum] and a couple in the new world [Libellula in temperate north, and Orthemis in tropical south]. The species all have a strong flight. Orthetrum are medium sized dragonflies originating from Africa. In many species the males become blue with maturity, but some are very differently bright red. All Orthetrum spp. are more or less without coloured patches on the wings. Libellula has its origin in northern America, with Libellula quadrimaculata as the only circumboreal species. The 2 other chasers in Europe may in the future be removed from the Libellula genus. Known under the name king skimmers, the about 18 Libellula species of North America are generally large with wingspans up to 8–8.5 cm [3.1–3.3 inch]. Male and females often both have big coloured patches on the wings.

Dragonflies are powerful fliers that have clocked at over 56 km/h [35 mph]. Like hummingbirds, they can fly forwards, backwards, sideways, up and down, and hover. They are extremely active during the mating phase and must eat often. They have enormous eyes giving nearly 360 degree vision, incredibly swift reactions, fast, powerful flight, and wicked barbs on their legs to assist capturing insects in flight.

Libellula quadrimaculata gets its name from the 4 dark spots present at the midpoint of the front of each of its 4 wings. Sources agree that whoever named this species missed 2 spots and it should really be named the 6-spotted skimmer. Unusually for this family, males and females are much alike in appearance; the basic colouration is dark honey-brown, with yellow markings on the sides of the abdomen. The tip of

the abdomen is black. Average body length is 4.3 cm [1.7 inch]; wingspan is 7.5 cm [2.9 inch].

This species has a wide range and occurs from Europe and Morocco to Kamchatka and Japan, and to Canada and the USA. It is the State Insect of Alaska. It is widespread and common across most of its range, but becomes scarcer towards the south. It is particularly common on sheltered lowland lakes and ponds. It can also be found on acid bogs breeding in very small pools and on sheltered upland lakes.

Highly aggressive, male four-spotted chasers are active insects and spend long periods of time hawking over the water and surrounding vegetation, often in swarms, both hunting for other insects and marking out their territories. Males often use one perch, and are fiercely territorial towards other dragonflies. Mating takes place on the wing and the females then hover over the water surface, dropping her eggs, which sink down to adhere to submerged vegetation. As with other Odonata species, the larvae of the four-spotted chaser live for about 2 years amongst the vegetation and muddy debris at the bottom of their pond. They are voracious predators of other water creatures. When they have grown to a large enough size they climb up the stems of emergent vegetation before completing their transformation into adults.

Many European cultures viewed dragonflies as sinister creatures, servants of the devil, in league with other evils such as snakes and bats. Other cultures, often more agrarian ones, had a far more benign view of dragonflies, based, perhaps, on the recognition of their fundamental role in controlling populations of pest insects of all sorts. An archaic name for the Japanese Islands is Akitsushima, the Dragonfly Islands, where dragonflies symbolised courage, strength, and happiness. For some Native American tribes dragonflies symbolised clean, pure water, swiftness, and agility. In the modern world dragonflies are good indicators of environmental heath, indicating a robustly functioning ecosystem.

Symptoms from a proving by Claudia Grothus [Germany], 18 provers, C3-trituration, 30c, 2009–2010.

AFFINITY

Mucosa and skin. Chest. Peripheral nervous system.

SYMPTOMS

M Desire for company yet irritable when in company.
M Distorted time sense – time goes fast.
M Drive; zest for action; vigour; full speed ahead; "ants in pants"; tense, as if electrified; overwhelming restlessness.
M Drive and initiative despite fatigue/tiredness.
M Desire to be outside in nature, which >.
G Sensitive to vibrations.
G Dryness – mouth, tongue, palate, throat.
G Restless, unrefreshing sleep; early waking.
G Motion, activity >.
G Clearly circumscribed [localised] sensations – numbness; pain; prickling.
S Wandering numbness.
S Dizziness as if riding a roller-coaster.
S Numbness upper lip, esp. centre. Numbness tip of tongue. Numbness nose.
S Numbness lips, teeth [as from a local anaesthetic].
S Lump in throat.
S Oppression chest/heart as from a slab of stone. Tightness in chest.

S Bubbling behind sternum.
S Numbness fingertips. Numbness legs.
L Herpes centre upper lip.
L Irritable, dry skin. Prickling and itching, esp. head/face and legs.

CUES & CLUES
Dipping. Fast, swift. Fierce. Hovering. Perching; resting vs active chasing. Powerful flight. Shed skin. Skimming. Still water. Unappreciated ally. Voracious.

LILIUM SUPERBUM

SUBSTANCE
Lilium superbum. American Turk's cap lily. Swamp lily. Lily-royal.
Family Liliaceae. Order Liliales.

The Turk's cap lily is a tall rhizomatous perennial to 1.2–2.8 m [3.9–9.2 ft] high. It is native to eastern North America, where it has a widespread distribution in gaps and openings in rich woods, swamp edges and bottoms, streamsides, moist meadows and thickets, pine barrens, and roadsides. The preference is full or partial sun, rich loamy soil, and moist conditions.

The leaves are usually more or less evenly distributed along the stem, in 6–24 whorls or partial whorls, with 3–20 leaves per whorl, mostly nearly horizontal and drooping at the tips. The flowers are non-fragrant, pendant, reflexed, yellow to red-orange, with magenta spots. The nectaries form visible green stars in the centre of the flower. The pale green style is often spotted purple; the anthers are magenta, occasionally purple, and the pollen rust-coloured. The Turk's cap lily blooms from July to August. It represents pride and vanity in floral lore.

Lilium superbum grows from a stoloniferous bulb, with the 'mother bulb' sending out new 'daughter bulbs' every year. Propagation is easy from bulb scales, although Lilium superbum also sets a prolific amount of seed. It takes several years to produce a flowering size bulb, yet it is very easy to grow a large quantity from seed.

"In the Liliaceae, the class of monocotyledons reach their highest development, the pinnacle of flowering form. The lily family offers quite a variety of forms, yet basically it has a very simple, easily discernible pattern of growth. One feature shown by the family type is etheric congestion, watery, mucilaginous swelling. Bulbs, corms and rhizomes are characteristically formed, so that this plastic swelling and congestive growth takes place beneath the surface of the soil; it frequently extends also to the leaf process, holding it back close to the sphere of subterranean organs, where rosettes may form. Bulb formation – sometimes below ground, sometimes half in the earth and half above it – does of course represent a leaf principle held back in a closed-up, swollen bud, around a shoot pushed down and compressed to the nth degree?

"Actual root development is poor and rather primitive, as in many of the monocotyledons. The plants belonging to this family do give the impression of something childlike, soft, primitive, indeed embryonic. What they desire, first and foremost, is to become a living drop, a watery sphere. A tremendous effort is required to move out of such watery succulence, and advance to a flowering process of great intensity in scent, colour, and form. A long period during which the plant rests within the rounded sphere is followed by vehement release from tension, arrow-straight upward-rocketing growth, with the plant giving itself up entirely to the upper elements of light, air and

RUBRICS STRANGE, RARE & PECULIAR
Mind • *Anxiety* on going to sleep. *Fear* of insanity. *Restlessness*, night after midnight, 2 a.m. or 3 a.m. *Restlessness* during headache. *Sadness*, morning.
Dreams • *Calling* out for help. Being *cut* to pieces. Upper part of *head* is torn away.
Head • *Pain* vertex, spots. *Pulsating* < exertion.
Throat • Constant disposition to *swallow.*
Abdomen • *Constriction* hypochondria.
Sleep • *Sleeplessness,* & daytime sleepiness.
Generals • Constant *change* of symptoms. *Weakness* during and/or from headache; < mental exertion.

CUES & CLUES
Even. Mother and daughters. Pride and vanity. Rich. Yellow to red-orange.

LIMENITIS BREDOWII CALIFORNICA

SUBSTANCE
Adelpha californica. Synonyms: Adelpha bredowii subsp. californica. Limenitis bredowii subsp. californica. California sister.
Family Nymphalidae. Order Lepidoptera. Class Insecta. Phylum Arthropoda.

The Nymphalidae is a family of about 5000 species of butterflies distributed throughout most of the world. Usually medium-sized to large butterflies, most species have a reduced pair of forelegs and many hold their colourful wings flat when resting. They are also called brush-footed butterflies or four-footed butterflies. Many species are brightly coloured and include popular species such as the emperors, admirals, tortoiseshells, and fritillaries. Interesting traits demonstrated by some members of this family include lengthy migrations, territoriality, and the ability to overwinter as adults.

The name Lepidoptera means 'scale wings'. The scaly wings of Lepidopteran insects come in two pairs and are often quite colourful. Insects in this group have large compound eyes. Above each compound eye is a simple eye called an ocellus. Adult Lepidoptera have mouthparts formed into a sucking tube, or proboscis, which is used to drink nectar. The larvae [caterpillars] have chewing mouthparts and are herbivorous. Comprising an estimated 174,250 species, in 126 families and 46 superfamilies, the order Lepidoptera is one of the most widespread and widely recognisable insect orders in the world.

The California sister is a medium to large sized brown-black butterfly with a relatively narrow dorsal forewing. It is easily recognised by the large subtriangular patch of orange-red at the apex of the primaries. It has contrasting ventral colours of white, blue-grey, dark red-brown and orange bands on a black background. Its name 'sister' alludes to the black and white markings on the forewing that resemble a nun's habit. A regal species, stately in flight, the California sister slides back and forth along streambeds and roads. Males perch on branches and foliage, frequently in oak. Both sexes visit mud puddles. [Unusual; in most butterflies only males 'puddle'.] The female is larger than the male, with broader wings and a less pointed forewing apex. There is no variation in colour and pattern between male and female. Wingspan 6–10 cm [2.4–3.9 inch].

This butterfly is found in oak woodlands through much of California and western Oregon to extreme southern Washington. It favours foothills and mid-elevation

mountains in oak woodland and mixed coniferous forests, often along the edges of woods or in riparian canyons with small streams. Being one of California's 'flyway' butterflies, it patrols woodland paths. It is commonly found on oak trees [on which it lays its eggs] and by water sources where it sips salts from the mud.

There are 2 to 3 broods flying March or April to November at lower elevations. The green eggs are laid singly at the tip of a leaf on the upperside. The first instar is olive green with paler flecks. The second instar is green or various shades of brown. The third instar is pale brownish yellow and densely covered with yellowish conical tubercles. The fourth instar is light reddish-brown with a lateral greenish tinge, and the fifth instar olive green and densely covered with conical yellowish tubercles. The pupa is pale brown to pale straw yellow; attached to tree trunks by a large silken web.

Host plants or larval food plants include oaks, especially live oaks [Quercus agrifolia, Q. wislizenii, Q. vaccinifolia, and Q. chrysolepis]. Adults seldom visit flowers, but are attracted to water, and also to dung, carrion, flowing sap, damaged fruit, rotting fruit, all of which point to a very tropical lifestyle.

Females are highly dispersive and are most likely to be seen in unusual places. Males often gather in small groups to feed at moist sand along streams, typically mid-morning. Males often return to a favourite perch.

The California sister has been shown to be mildly distasteful to birds and to be mimicked by the more edible Lorquin's admiral [Limenitis lorquini] in California.

Unmarked symptoms from a proving by Nancy Herrick [USA], 5 female and 2 male provers, 30c, 1996. Symptoms marked ° from Degroote's Dream Repertory. Clinical observations from Patricia Le Roux [France; R], Butterflies, 2009.

AFFINITY

Chest; heart; lungs. Musculoskeletal; back and limbs. Eyes.

SYMPTOMS

M Being a baby, a child, or particularly an adolescent. "Felt resentful that I had to be indoors working on such a beautiful day. I wished I was a kid." "Dreams of being an adolescent; realised adults didn't have all the answers." "Overall feeling: the theme of adolescence and looking to adults for teaching and guidance."

M Deep sense of compassion, feeling of real joy for other people's happiness. Spontaneous feeling of pleasure.

M Attached to family members and partner; one-on-one relationships are everything.°

M Aversion to troublesome people.°

M Children attached to the mother; when the mother is absent the child finds something that [still] smells of her perfume.° [Proving symptom in 49-year-old female prover: "Very deep missing of my mother, who died eight years ago. I feel needful of her for no particular reason. I just want my mother, so I dig out an old cape of hers that I have in the cupboard and that still smells very strongly of her perfume and I wrap myself up in it. I sleep with it around me all night."]

M Feeling [in child] of being unprotected by parents.° Need for guidance by parents.°

M Feeling like a baby, child, adolescent. Feeling very small, fragile, exposed. Feeling abandoned is typical for all butterflies, but linked with feeling unprotected by adults, left to be preyed upon by predators, without any protection, makes it typical for Limenitis. [R]

M Sympathetic.°

M Body awareness and sensuality. They are physically attractive, enjoy wearing pretty colours and clothes. The females makes very good housekeepers. [R]
M Love and loving. The love lives of butterflies are profound and diverse. But those of Limenitis are characterised by stability and a need for family harmony, with the father and mother at the family core. Limenitis patients are very caught up in their sexuality. [R]
M Mother, father, family. Extremely close to immediate family. Home is a sacred place. Strong ties of loyalty; special attachment to values relating to the house/family home. [R]
M Pressure behind and around eyes. "I am aware that I am observing situations from behind my eyes, very much internally. I felt focused on others' eyes; I would look into their eyes with more attention."
G "I feel very tired, too tired to do anything with my ordinary mind, I want to dream, or just go into a mindless state, not to sleep, but yet not to be without intelligence either."
G Acute sense of smell.
S General sensation: openness and expansion in chest, heart and solar plexus.
S Band around eyes. Sensation behind eyes as of an internal band, ability to focus impaired.
S Heaviness around eyes.
S Left eye as if being compacted and pushed inwards.
S Clarity of smell as if having inhaled menthol; cool, clear and unobstructed feeling.
S Food feels stuck in stomach.
S Fullness in pelvis, more gas, moving and rolling sensation. Awareness of that area.
S Bronchial passages and wind pipe felt clean and as if they were expanding.
S When lying in bed; arms felt as if I wanted to stretch them, but I couldn't move.
L See Rubrics below.

RUBRICS STRANGE, RARE & PECULIAR

Mind • *Acceptance. Affectionate. Anger* # sadness, over death of mother 8 years ago. *Anxiety,* will catch germs from others. *Benevolence.* Aversion to *business;* incapacity for business; neglects business. *Cheerful* & sensation of lightness. *Children,* desire to nurture. Desire to be *communicative* from the heart. Desire for *company* of deceased mother. *Comprehension* from the heart of everything. *Confusion,* on attempting to concentrate the mind; < conversation; knows not where she is; knows not where she is and cannot distinguish/recognise the objects around her. Desire to go into *countryside. Delusions:* Being an alien; becoming insane; cannot accomplish one's work. Want of *discipline. Dullness,* unable to think long. *Joy* at happiness of others. Exalted *love* for humanity. *Love* for family; for husband. Desire to be *magnetised.* Desire for *meditating. Mental* exertion impossible, owing to the impotence of his mind seems to drive him crazy. Being an *observer.* Desire for *playing.* Spontaneous feelings of *pleasure.* Wanting to give up her *responsibility. Sadness*, death of mother. *Sensitive* to emotional pain of others. *Thinking* of complaints <. Aversion to or desire for *thinking.* One thought excludes all other *thoughts.* Vanishing of *thoughts* while attending business.

Dreams • *Animals* in suspended animation. Cannot find the *bathroom. Beach,* walking on the sand. *Blood* transfusion. *Bombs,* threat. Big and beautiful *buildings.* Dark and old *buildings. Children,* in danger; children feel unprotected by adults; neglecting child; wildness. *Dead* infant bodies. *Dead* beloved relatives. Danger of *drowning. Forest. Glass.* Parents asking for *guidance.* Being *interrupted. Lizards. Metamorphosis,* bug to moth;

man to bat. *Moths. Nakedness. Raccoons.* Discovery of *secret. Snow.* Approaching hurricane *storm.* Swimming in *waves.*
Head • Pressing *pain* forehead behind eyes. *Pain* occiput extending back of neck or down back.
Eyes • Sensation of a *band* around eyeballs. Pressing *pain* < motion of eyes. *Pain* pressing backward or inward. *Pressure* around eyes > movement.
Vision • *Accommodation* defective. *Wavering.*
Ears • *Pain* extending to teeth.
Nose • *Coldness* inside as if having smelled menthol. *Smell* acute to flowers.
Face • *Cracked* corners of mouth. *Eruptions,* acne, chin.
Mouth • Sensation of *swelling,* palate; tongue.
Throat • *Pain* extending to ear, < swallowing.
Urethra • Burning *pain* at end of urination.
Respiration • *Asthmatic,* night, must sit up in bed.
Chest • Sensation of *expansion,* bronchi; heart. Sensation of *feathers* or petals overlaying chest. *Palpitation* of heart on waking in night.
Back • *Pain,* morning on waking; & heat; > pressure. Aching *pain* sacrum < standing for a long time. Labour-like *pain* sacrum. *Stiffness* cervical region and/or lumbar region on waking.
Limbs • *Pain* as if dislocated, ankles; foot joints; hand joints; wrists. Sensation of *paralysis,* night. *Restlessness,* legs. *Stiffness* ankles, morning on rising. *Stiffness* knees in morning.
Chill • *Chilliness* during headache.
Generals • Nervous *shuddering* as if from emotions.

FOOD & FLUID
Desire • Cold drinks. Fried food. Meat; bacon [yet does not enjoy it]. Warm drinks. Warm food.

CUES & CLUES
Carrion; dung; rot. Hills and mountains. Mud. Oak. Patrolling. Regal; stately. Sister; nun. Sliding back and forth. Small groups.

LINUM CATHARTICUM

SUBSTANCE
Linum catharticum. Fairy flax. Purging flax. Mountain flax. White flax. Bitter flax.
Family Linaceae. Order Malpighiales.

Linaceae, the Flax or Linseed family, is a small family with 10–12 genera and about 300 species of herbs. Linum is the largest genus, of mainly Mediterranean distribution and comprising some 230 species. The family is of economic importance as the producer of fibres [linen or flax], seed oil [linseed], some fruits and ornamentals.

Fairy flax is a small delicate grassland annual or biennial with white flowers with yellow centres in a very loose, remote arrangement, each having a slender stalk often much longer than the flower. Due to its extremely thin stems, fairy flax can hardly stay still even on the calmest of days. Native to Europe, it has been introduced elsewhere.

The major constituents are tannins and lignans, particularly podophyllotoxin. The plant lignan podophyllotoxin has pronounced cytotoxic activity and is used as the

L Eructations tasting of bile.
L All morning, before rising, felt the abdomen full; after breakfast urgent call; rectum felt very distended, copious soft motion well mixed with bile.
L Immediately after dinner, much griping and great urgency to get to stool quick; very loose bright yellow motion.
L Faeces covered with epithelial-like shreds, resembling worms; gelatinous mucus, in form of rolls, like inkle tape [ribbon].
L Great pain in chest < any movement, or deep inspiration.
L After breakfast, when out in open air, tickling, teasing cough, and frothy mucous expectoration; rawness in throat.
L Frothy sputum, tasting as of seawrack [Fucus vesiculosus; kelp].

RUBRICS STRANGE, RARE & PECULIAR
Mind • *Asking* for nothing.* Desires *nothing.** *Perseverance* in performing irksome duties.
Dreams • *Amorous. Cholera. Danger. Journeys. Penis,* prepuce sloughed off. *Trouble.*
Vertigo • On *bending* head backward.
Head • *Pain,* < raising head; < after stool.
Mouth • *Taste,* bloody; metallic; offensive; sweetish.
Throat • *Swallowing* impossible.
External Throat • *Itching.*
Stomach • Deathly *nausea.*
Sleep • *Sleepiness* after dinner.
Generals • Nervous *shuddering.*

* Symptoms misapplied, both belonging to Linum usitatissimum instead of Linum catharticum.

CUES & CLUES
Cytotoxic. Hard to stay still. Podophyllotoxin. Venereal warts.

LITHIUM MURIATICUM

SUBSTANCE
Lithium chloride.
LiCl. Chlorine 83.63%; lithium 16.37%.

Lithium chloride consists of deliquescent, cubic crystals, granules or crystalline powder with a sharp saline taste. One gram dissolves in 1.3 ml cold, and 0.8 ml boiling water and is soluble in alcohol, acetone, amyl alcohol, and pyridine. Lithium chloride can be extracted from brines that accompany natural gas.

Applications include pyrotechnics where it burns with a red flame colour, welding and soldering flux, soldering aluminium, dry batteries, in refrigerating machines, as a desiccant for hybrid solar desiccant cooling systems. The applications for a lithium chloride solution include deicing solutions, low-freezing solutions for fire extinguishers, catalyst, dehumidifying systems and photosensitive developer compositions.

Lithium chloride is used in the manufacture of mineral waters. The compound has been prescribed for use as a replacement for dietary table salt or sodium chloride. Its use was abandoned due to side effects.

Body distribution is to total body water with higher levels in kidney, thyroid, and bone as compared to other tissues. Lithium can substitute for sodium or potassium on

CUES & CLUES
Fast manifestations. Freshwater. Increased by warmth. Marine; seawater. Paralysis. Red tide. Seafood; shellfish. Seasonal variation.

SCHISTOCERCA AMERICANA

SUBSTANCE
Schistocerca americana. American grasshopper. American bird grasshopper. American locust.
Family Acrididae. Order Orthoptera. Class Insecta. Phylum Arthropoda.

Acrididae is the predominant family of short-horned grasshoppers, comprising some 10,000 of the 11,000 species of the entire suborder Caelifera. Short-horned grasshoppers are characterised by short, heavy antennae, a four-valved ovipositor for laying eggs, and three-segmented tarsi, which are the distal segments of the leg. Short-horned grasshoppers range in size from 5 mm to 11 cm [0.2 to 4.3 inch] in length. The shape of the body may be long and slender or short and stout. Many species are green or straw-coloured, which helps them blend into their surroundings. The large hind legs are modified for jumping, with greatly enlarged femurs. The antennae have fewer than 30 segments and are usually shorter than the body. Some species have wings, whereas others are wingless. Among the winged species, the males can produce characteristic noises by rubbing the front wings together or by drawing the hind legs across the edge of the wings. Most species have a pair of tympanal [auditory] organs at the base of the abdomen.

Acrididae are herbivorous and include some of the most destructive agricultural pests known. The swarming phase of certain species of short-horned grasshoppers are called locusts. They are also known as plague, or migratory, species.

Schistocerca, commonly called bird grasshoppers, is a genus of short-horned grasshoppers, several of which swarm as locusts. Most species are, however, sedentary and non-swarming grasshoppers that are ecologically diverse and have adapted to different environments. The genus is also known for its unusual biogeographic distribution where a single species, S. gregaria occurs in the Old World, while the rest of the genus occurs strictly in the New World. There are around 50 species, 2 of which have been introduced in the materia medica.

S. americana is native to North America, where it occurs in the eastern United States, Mexico, and the Bahamas. There are occasional, localised outbreaks of this grasshopper, and it is often referred to as a locust, though it lacks the true swarming form of its congener, the desert locust, S. gregaria.

The overall colour of S. americana gradually changes from a pinkish-brown or reddish-brown to more of a yellowish-brown hue as the grasshopper reaches sexual maturity. The adults bear fully developed wings with large dark brown spots on a lighter background. Adults are distinctly different in appearance from the immature stages [nymphs]. The length of the male is 39 to 45 mm [1.5–1.8 inch], whereas the female is 42 to 55 mm [1.6–2.2 inch].

S. americana has 2 generations per year. It overwinters in the adult stage, unlike most grasshoppers, which pass the winter in the egg stage. The female deposits her eggs in the soil about 2 to 3 cm [0.8–1.2 inch] below the surface by pushing her ovipositor down into the substrate. The grasshoppers prefer areas with some ground cover to deposit their egg clusters. The egg cluster generally consists of 60 to 80 eggs

that are secured together by a frothy polymer-like substance that the female secretes. Females may lay up to 3 egg pods. The eggs are 7 to 8 mm [0.3 inch] in length and are light orange in colour. The nymphs hatch from the eggs 3 to 4 weeks after deposition and must work their way to the surface. The nymphs go through 5 or 6 instars [moults] before reaching adulthood. Initially the nymphs remain aggregated in small groups, moving from plant to plant and feeding gregariously. As they grow older they become less aggregated. [entnemdept.ufl.edu]

This species can cause injury to citrus, corn, cotton, oats, peanuts, rye, sugarcane, tobacco and vegetables. Aside from commercial crops, it also shows a preference for several species of grasses: bahiagrass, bermudagrass, crabgrass, nutgrass and woodsgrass. It also feeds on dogwood, hickory and palm trees.

Phenotypic plasticity in behaviour induced by high rearing density is often part of a migratory syndrome in insects called phase polyphenism. Among locust species, swarming and the expression of phase polyphenism are highly correlated. S. americana rarely swarms, even though it is closely related to the swarming Old World desert locust, S. gregaria, as well as 2 swarming New World locusts. Anecdotal field observations of locust-like behaviour in S. americana indicate that it may express behavioural phase polyphenism, but empirical investigations are lacking.

This species was the source of a newly discovered class of chemical compounds called caeliferins. Caeliferins are composed of saturated and monounsaturated sulphated alpha-hydroxy fatty acids with 15–20 carbons and are present in the grasshopper's regurgitant/saliva. When the grasshopper feeds on a plant, the caeliferins in the regurgitant induce the plant to release volatile organic compounds. This is a common response to herbivory in plants; the volatile organic compounds are attractive to predators of the herbivorous insects. Caeliferins may also play a role in defence, as the grasshopper expels large amounts of regurgitant when attacked.

Symptoms from a proving by Todd Rowe, American Medical College of Homeopathy [Arizona, USA], 9 female and 2 male provers, 30c, 2007.

AFFINITY

Sensory organs; auditory. Gastrointestinal. "Physical areas most targeted by this remedy included the jaw, mouth and stomach."

SYMPTOMS

M Desire to sit still and listen, as if listening for something, tuning everything out and waiting.

M Change. "As if nothing is ever the same in my life and I wonder how people live day to day in the same thing; I like that I am able to move quickly and hate it whenever I get stuck."

M Persistent feeling of frenzy; frenzy about eating, sex, irritability, craziness; like swarming feeling; feeding frenzy. "The frenzy manifested in irritability, restlessness, hurry, impatience, impetuousness, impulsivity, confrontation, violence, desire to attack others, panic and panic attacks, threatening behaviour, shrieking, hatred, mania and insanity. Sexuality was prominent even to the point of nymphomania. In this state provers described a feeling of being invincible."

M Oversensitive to noise, esp. white noise; < night. Irritability from white noise; somewhat > music.

M Emotions felt as an empty or hollow sensation in the stomach, & anxiety and feelings of loneliness.

M Attracted to the colour yellow.

M Theme: Waving, flowing, moving. "Sense of moving through things, through people; flowing; riding the wind; wanting to drive fast; wanting to fly."
G Left side more affected.
G General characteristics: Tendency towards injuries [falls], weight loss, heaviness, swelling and lassitude. Tendency to falling & faintness and weakness, esp. of lower limbs. Sudden weight loss, associated with fluid loss.
G Pains constricting, contracting, cramping, squeezing. "Several provers described this cramping and squeezing as if all the water was being wrung out, leaving them feeling dehydrated."
G Dryness mucosa and skin. Cracking of nails and fingertips. Chapped nose and lips.
G Appetite decreased. Thirst increased.
S Body as if vibrating all over when going to sleep.
S Sensation of falling off the bed on waking up in middle of night.
S Head as if constricted by a band or hoop; pressing as if in an armoured helmet.
S Fog behind eyes and temples.
S Water sloshing around in head. Ears as if stopped.
S Eyes as if swollen. Heavy feeling under eyes.
S Dryness face, nose, cheeks; skin feels rough and crusty.
S Pain as if being punched violently in the stomach. Stomach sensitive to touch.
S Bursting sensation stomach and right lower quarter of abdomen, as if it would rip open, as if intestines are stretching.
S Pain in uterus as if being punched.
S Coccyx as if dislocated.
S Leg bones as thick and heavy; heaviness in front of legs, like walking through mud.
S Toes as if bruised, as if curling them to grip.
L High-pitched buzzing tinnitus.
L Severe diarrhoea, mainly; must rush to make it in time to the toilet.
L Coldness limbs. Ataxia and propensity to fall. Heaviness limbs. Crampy or stitching limb pains, esp. in toes, fingers, and shoulders.

Remedy Overview
"The core sensation for this proving was related to the sensation of metamorphosis or transformation between two states. The first state was described as being in a hole or cave and patiently waiting for some kind of signal. This state was solitary. In this state there is a feeling of timelessness and spatial distortion.

"The second state was described as a frenzy. This state was very social and involved seeking a mate and various group activities. Images of flying became involved. Sexuality became very prominent with dreams of indiscriminate group sex and sex between children.

"This frenzy leads to the feeling of the destruction or the end of the world. There is a quality of great destructiveness." [Todd Rowe]

RUBRICS STRANGE, RARE & PECULIAR
Mind • *Ancient* feeling. *Anger*, before menses; on waking. Desire to *attack* others. *Aversion* to self. Desire for *change. Co-dependency. Colours,* desires orange, red, yellow. *Delusions:* Being an insect; not appreciated; emerging from birth canal; approaching death; forced to be here against one's will; being in a hole; being invincible; being a predator; something about her makes others stare; time is endless; being trapped; being watched; moving in a new world. Increased *environmental* orientation. Sensation of *flowing. Gestures*, picking at fingers. *Hurry* while driving, wants to overtake all

others. *Inquisitive*, observing others. *Joy* in nature. *Love* for everyone around one. *Love* for self. *Mania* # sadness. *Music* >. *Sensitive* to noise, background; high pitched; slightest; voices. Concerned about *social* position. *Sun,* sunlight >. *Threatening.* Desire to *travel. Watchfulness*, waiting for a signal.
Dreams • Being *attacked. Babies.* Being *busy. Crowds. Devastation. Food. Holes. Nakedness.* Doing *wrong.*
Vertigo • On *looking* around., *Standing* <. While *walking.*
Head • *Congestion*, occiput; temples. *Discolouration*, grey hair. *Formication*, occiput; vertex. Pressing *pain* as if in an armour; as by an iron helmet. *Swashing*, splashing sensation.
Eyes • *Itching*, morning on waking. Sensation of *swelling.*
Ears • Buzzing *noise* in ears during headache. *Noises*, popping.
Nose • *Obstruction*, morning. *Sneezing*, morning.
Face • *Eruptions,* acne, lips. *Itching*, eyebrows; margins of lips. *Pain*, jaw, on drinking. *Tension*, jaw. *Twitching* around eyes.
Mouth • Musty *odour* of breath. *Tingling* tip of tongue.
Throat • *Pain* as of something sticking in throat. Feeling of small *sticks* in throat. *Tickling*, throat pit.
Stomach • *Heat*, extending upward. *Knotted* together feeling. *Pain*, > bending double; > heat; > lying; > stretching. *Pain* as from a blow. *Sensitive* to touch. Sensation of *sucking in.*
Abdomen • *Pain* as from a blow, hypogastrium. Burning *pain* > stool. Twisting *pain.*
Rectum • *Diarrhoea*, waking with urging in morning.
Female • *Pain* uterus as from a blow, as if being punched. *Sexual desire,* insatiable.
Larynx • Sensation as of *foreign bodies* in larynx.
Chest • Burning *pain* in heart region.
Back • *Pain* lumbar region extending to hips. *Pain* as if dislocated, coccyx.
Limbs • *Coldness* feet in night. *Cramps* feet. *Dryness*, hands; fingertips. Sensation as of an *electric* current, feet; legs; upper limbs. *Heaviness,* shoulders; legs, bones. *Pain*, hips, night; shoulders, night. *Roughness* fingertips.
Skin • *Sensitive* to open air; to touch. *Stings* of insects, wasps.
Generals • Desires hot *bathing. Electricity*, sensation of electrical sparks. Sensation of *falling* out of bed while awake. *Knotted* sensation internally. *Noise,* humming, buzzing, and whizzing in body. Squeezing *pain*, as if all the water had been squeezed out. *Stretching* >; must stretch. Sudden change of *weight*.

FOOD & FLUID
Aversion • Alcohol. Chocolate.
Desire • Cold drinks. Meat; raw meat; red meat. Seafood.

CUES & CLUES
Aggregating when young. Blending in. Grasses. Jumping. Regurgitating when attacked. Shades of brown. Working one's way to the surface.

SCHISTOCERCA GREGARIA

SUBSTANCE

Schistocerca gregaria. Desert locust. Plague locust.
Family Acrididae. Order Orthoptera. Class Insecta. Phylum Arthropoda.

Schistocerca gregaria is a species of short-horned grasshopper that can form highly mobile swarms and spread over as much as 20% of the world's land mass. Comprised of more than 30 million locusts per square mile, locust swarms can travel up to 80 miles [129 km] a day and impact the livelihoods of up to 10% of the world's population in 60 countries by eating the same amount of food in a day as several thousand people. Plagues of the desert locust have threatened agricultural production in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia for centuries. The desert locust is potentially the most dangerous of the locust pests because of the ability of swarms to fly rapidly across great distances. The species has 2 to 5 generations per year.

In swarms, adults are first pink but may become rose, brown or orange brown when conditions are cool, such as in mountains. When they mature the colour changes to bright yellow in males and dull yellow in females. In solitarious forms the colour is greyish or brownish, but males may become yellow when they mature. Males are 40–50 mm [1.6–2.0 inch], females are 50–60 mm [2.0–2.4 inch] long. The translucent forewings are greenish yellow with many brown spots. Between the forelegs they have a peg-like structure. Male locusts start to mature first and then give off from their skin a chemical substance, the odour of which causes maturation to start in females, and also in any males in which it has not already begun. At this stage large swarms break up into smaller ones, as those locusts that mature first settle on the ground for breeding, while those not yet quite mature fly on.

When copulation ends the males usually remain for some time on the backs of the females. The females become restless and walk about carrying the males. They begin to select a suitable place to lay their eggs by probing and testing the soil with the tip of the abdomen. During this probing they can detect warmth, hardness, moisture and salinity [salt content] of the soil. They are also attracted to each other at this time, assembling together in groups.

Plague locusts show an extreme form of phenotypic plasticity, changing between a cryptic solitarious phase and a swarming gregarious phase. Solitarious locusts show rapid behavioural phase change in response to tactile stimulation directed to the hind femora. Repeatedly touching as little as one quarter of the anterior [outer] surface area of a hind femur produced full behavioural gregarisation within 4 hours. The phases can be distinguished by differences in colouration, form, physiology, and behaviour. A solitary phase nymph adjusts its colouration to match that of its surroundings, does not collect in groups, has low metabolic and oxygen-intake rates, and is sluggish. A gregarious phase nymph, on the other hand, has black and yellow or orange colouration in a fixed pattern, gathers in large groups, has high metabolic and oxygen-intake rates, and is active and nervous.

When a nymph of a solitary phase locust matures in the presence of many other locusts, it undergoes a physiological change and produces offspring of the gregarious type. The young of a gregarious phase locust, on the other hand, will produce offspring that revert to the solitary phase if it matures in isolation. The solitary phase is the normal state of the species, with the gregarious phase being a physiological response to violent fluctuations in the environment.

M Rage, like a ball of fire raging from stomach; wants to annihilate and blow up others.
M Competing for attractiveness.
M Darkness <. "Oppressive feeling as if the darkness would enclose me."
M Fascinated or harassed by flying insects, and spiders.
M Aversion to the colour pink.
M Imaginary odours: Cigarette smoke; smoke, like an ashtray. Heightened sense of smell.
M Dream themes: Water and floods. Becoming invisible. Black and white. Sexual encounters. Spiders of all different shapes and sizes. Wood and wooden objects. Hiding and wanting to keep things private.
G Building up energy, holding it in until it bursts out with explosive force.
G Exuberant energy. "Dancing manically in the evening for ages, really energetically and powerfully with agility and confidence that my body could bend in strange ways and could jump and not fall."
G Need for fresh air, movement and exertion.
G Very thirsty for cold water.
S Sensation of leaning to the right on closing eyes.
S Heavy back of head – hard to hold head up.
S Outward pressing weight above root of nose, radiating outwards over eyebrows.
S Sharp pain and raw, hot sensation in tip of tongue, like a piece of glass or splinter.
S Taste of rotting meat in back of throat.
S Nausea & profuse perspiration, sensation of bubbling inside, body feeling like its going to explode into pieces. "A sense of pushing out from inside, like a volcano eruption, no control over it, waiting for it to happen feels really uncomfortable."
S Sensation of nausea, like a fist of heavy metal stuck in centre of stomach.
S Heaviness in uterus like a breeze block, a solid heavy lump dragging the insides down.
S Breasts felt huge, as if they had metal plates on them; hard, swollen and solid.
S Mid-back feels crushed, compressed all out of place.
S Tightness in upper right trapezius muscle, sensation of rope inside muscle being stretched to capacity.
L Burning stinging tip of tongue.
L Nausea from eggs. Nausea < thought of food.
L Fishy smell of urine.

Remedy Overview

"The fact that the locust has 2 different forms and physically changes when it is a gregarious animal from the form it has when it leads a solitary existence is definitely characteristic. The need to conform and find a place as part of the group, whether it be herd, flock or hive, is again a part of many animal remedies. The particular expression of this in the locust, especially the idea of being one or the other and of there being no intermediate state, is more characteristic and so more useful in understanding the remedy. There is also a contrary in that the provers felt there was a need to be part of the group and they felt alone and abandoned when away from it; yet at the same time they feel suffocated by the needs of the group and better away from it. They feel vulnerable when alone and need company in order to feel safe. There is a feeling of being particularly vulnerable when indoors where they feel unsafe; they feel much safer and less agitated when outside.

"The theme that came through most powerfully and which is so characteristic is the idea of building up energy, holding it in until it bursts out with explosive force. This idea is expressed in many ways. In the purely physical form, gases building up in the digestive tract until they burst out in explosive belching. The provers were much better for physical exercise and exertion which allowed some of their pent up energy to dissipate. On a more emotional level the irritability that is common to the insects builds up until it reaches a level of uncontainable anger. The most expressive example of this in sexuality where a low level of sexual excitement builds to a point of uncontrollable need that could not be denied." [Peter Fraser]

FOOD & FLUID
Desire • Chocolate. Dairy; cheese.
Worse • Eggs.
Better • Tea.

CUES & CLUES
Blending in. Cohesive groups. Disturbing transformation. Extremes; sharp contrasts. Harmless individuals, destructive crowds. Highly mobile. Long distance journeys. Millions. Reacting to environmental fluctuations. Settling for breeding. Swarms.

SCORPIO EUROPAEUS

SUBSTANCE
Euscorpius italicus. Syn.: Scorpio europaeus. Common European scorpion.
Family Euscorpiidae. Order Scorpiones. Class Arachnida. Phylum Arthropoda.

The family Euscorpiidae includes 10 genera and 86 species. The family is widespread in central and southern Europe, and also found in Africa [Mediterranean coast], North America [Mexico], Central America [Guatemala], South America [Brazil, Peru, Venezuela], and Asia [west, central, south and southeast]. One species has become established in some parts of southern England. The forefathers of these scorpions probably came with merchandise to the harbours, and have succeeded in surviving in sheltered places.

Scorpions in general are unusual among terrestrial arthropods in several traits of their life-history: ritualised and complex courtship with fertilisation by means of a spermatophore; viviparous embryonic development, which can last from several months to almost 2 years; maternal care, sometimes followed by a degree of social behaviour; and post-embryonic development times that may be extraordinarily long, lasting from 7 to 85 months.

Euscorpius italicus is the largest of the Euscorpius species, with adults growing to 4–5 cm [1.6–2 inch] in total length. Its body colour is dark brown to black, with orange-brown legs and telson. Its body is not raised on the legs in walking, as in Androctonus species, but lies close to the ground, the legs being extended on either side. The tail is not raised over the back, as in most scorpions, but dragged behind with the slightest upward curvature of the tail only, or bend to the right or left.

The common European scorpion is synanthropic, meaning it lives around human habitations. Because of the synanthropic nature of some of the species in this genus, Euscorpius species are reported as stowaways from time to time in many countries