

# Arthropod succession on human bodies in Quebec (Canada): Preliminary observations



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# CONTEXT

- REST[ES] facility, Bécancour (Qc, Canada), first human taphonomy facility in Canada

# METHOD

- 2 human donors (3-day difference in the time of death)
- Experiment started on August 10, 2020
- Observations of the bodies (decomposition + arthropods) + entomological net + pitfall traps (3 traps/body, distance:1m)
- Observations 2x/day (1 week), then daily observations until day 20, then every 2-3 days





# RESULTS

## Succession of arthropods: first observation of specimens (data from visual observation)

Day	0	1	2	3	4
Stage	Fresh	Fresh (marbling)	Fresh (marbling)	Bloat	Bloat
	<b>Diptera (A)</b> <b>Calliphoridae</b> <b>Muscidae</b> <b>Hydrotaea</b> <b>Piophilidae</b>	<b>Calliphoridae (eggs)</b> <i>Phormia regina</i> <i>Lucilia illustris</i>  <b>Sarcophagidae (A)</b> <b>Fanniidae?</b> <b>Sphaeroceridae?</b>  <b>Silphidae (A)</b> <i>Nicrophorus tomentosus</i>  <b>Histeridae (A)</b>	<b>Calliphoridae (L)</b>  <b>Sepsidae (A)</b>  <b>Staphylinidae (A)</b> <i>Ontholestes cingulatus</i> Other non identified  <b>Silphidae (A)</b> <i>Necrophila americana</i>  <b>Dermeestidae (A)</b>	   <b>Staphylinidae (A)</b> <i>Creophilus maxillosus</i>	   <b>Staphylinidae (A)</b> <i>Platydracus fossator</i>      <b>Nitidulidae (A)</b> <i>Omosita sp.</i>

A = Adult  
L = Larva







# RESULTS

## Succession of arthropods: first observation of specimens (data from visual observation)

Day	5	6	7	10	14	15	24
Stage	Bloat (Head: active)	Bloat (Head: active)	Bloat (Head: active)	Active	Active (Head: Advanced)	Active (Head: Advanced)	Advanced (Head: dry)
	<b>Asilidae (A)</b>			<b>Calliphoridae (larvae migration)</b>	<b>Hydrotaea (L)</b>		<b>Piophilidae (L)</b>
	<b>Silphidae (A)</b> <i>Necrodes surinamensis</i>	<b>Silphidae (A)</b> <i>Oiceoptoma noveboracense</i>		<b>Silphidae (L)</b>			
		<b>Cleridae (A)</b>	<b>Nitidulidae (A)</b> <i>Glischrochilus quadrisignatus</i>			<b>Staphylinidae (L)</b>	



To be continued...



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Thank you!

