There are 199 species of caddisfly (Trichoptera) known in the UK and Ireland. Life-cycles can vary between species. All species have a freshwater larval stage, except Enociozylla pusilla which is terrestrial.

The caseless caddis images here are of Rhyacophila dorsalis, the cased caddis is Brachycentrus subnubilus.

- **Eggs** laid in small groups, rows or sheets. Female enters water to lay.
- **Larva** does not make a portable case, although many species make fixed shelters. Moults skin 4 times as it grows.
- **Fully grown larva** makes a shelter. Inside the shelter the larva moults its skin and turns into a **pupa**.
- **Eggs** laid in large group within jelly under, onto, or near water. Most females do not enter water to lay.
- **Larva** makes a portable case. Huge variety of designs and materials. Moults skin 4 times as it grows.
- **Fully grown larva** fixes down case and seals it up. Inside the case the larva moults its skin and turns into a **pupa**.
- **Pupal skin** is left behind as adult emerges and flies away to mate.
- **Adult** forms within pupal skin, cuts its way out of the shelter or case and swims to the surface or shore.