Larval stage of the family Chaoboridae (phantom midges). These larvae are aquatic predators that can be confused with larvae of the mosquito genus Anopheles. Like anopheline larvae they move parallel to the surface film of water and lack the siphon (or breathing tube) typical of other mosquito larvae. Chaoborid larvae lack mouth brushes characteristic of mosquito larvae and their mouth parts are different (see following slide). Chaoborids also lack "palmate hairs" seen on the dorsum of certain abdominal segments in Anopheles spp. (See "Anopheles" for differences in head and mouth parts).









