

52. Ground Beetles *

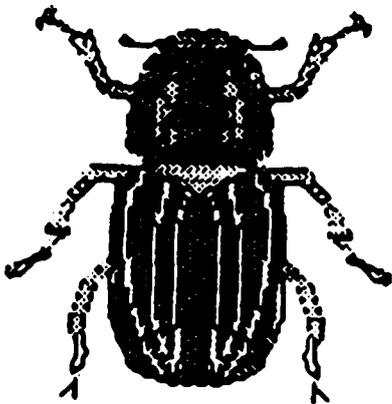
TRAITS: Dark, flattened insects with front wings thickened and shiny with grooves running from front to back; long legs, large mouthparts.

HABITAT: Most habitats on land; most are active only at night and hide during the day under logs, rocks, or leaf litter.

FOODS: Varies by species; some adults feed on dead animal remains; others prey on insects, such as caterpillars, or on slugs and snails.

EATEN BY: Jays, thrushes, wrens, sparrows, centipedes.

“GEE WHIZ”: Tundra species of ground beetles produce antifreezes that allow them to survive freezing temperatures.



53. Spruce Bark Beetles F

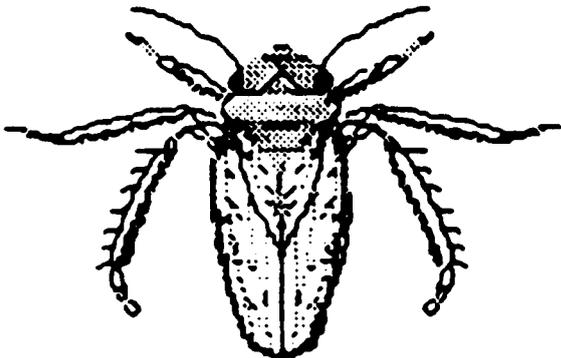
TRAITS: Small, round-bodied insects with thickened front wings; small antennae with clubs on the tips.

HABITAT: Under tree bark of dead and dying trees.

FOODS: Feeds and breeds in the underside of tree bark or wood.

EATEN BY: Woodpeckers, brown creepers, ichneumon wasp larvae.

“GEE WHIZ”: Under normal conditions, small populations of spruce bark beetles are always present in white spruce forests, feeding and breeding in the dead and dying trees.



54. Leafhoppers *

TRAITS: Front pair of wings thin and clear, or only slightly colored; held roof-like over body; beak-like mouth comes out of the rear underside of the head; 1 or more rows of spines on the hind legs.

HABITAT: Found on plants in forests and other habitats.

FOODS: Sap of plants.

EATEN BY: Warblers, thrushes, chickadees, shrews, ground beetles, centipedes.

“GEE WHIZ”: Many leafhoppers carry microscopic organisms that parasitize plants from one plant to another.