

BEEETLES

THE SPECIES BEHIND YOUR ECOSYSTEM

FAST FACTS

- The first beetle-like organism dates back 270 million years
- Beetles make up approximately 25% of the animal population on Earth, making one in every 4 animals a beetle
- Beetles live in habitats all over the globe from pole to pole
- The first insects to pollinate flowers

SCIENTIFIC CLASSIFICATION

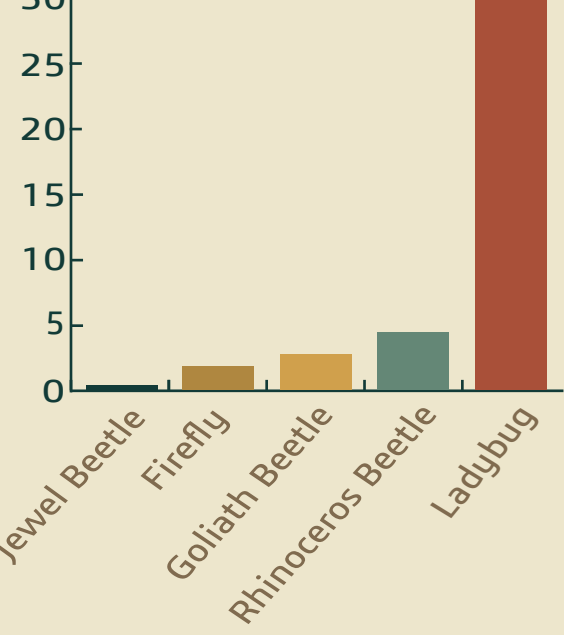
KINGDOM	Anthropoda
PHYLUM	Animalia
SUBPHYLUM	Insecta
CLASS	Coleopetra
ORDER	Unirama

GOLIATH BEETLE

- Largest beetle, approx. 7 inches long
- Can lift objects up to 850 times their body weight
- Hibernate during the weeks of their metamorphosis

LIFESPAN

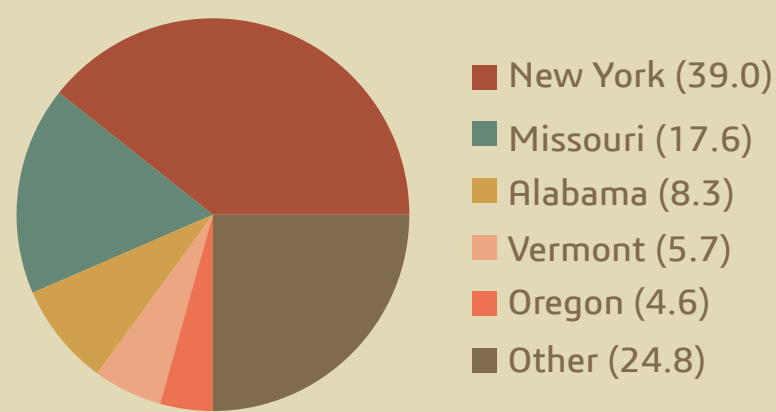
(IN MONTHS)



FIREFLY

- Bioluminescent
- Sometimes synchronize their flashing
- Live off of nectar and pollen from plants
- Some are carnivorous

PERCENTAGE OF LADY BUGS IN CROPS OF THE STATES



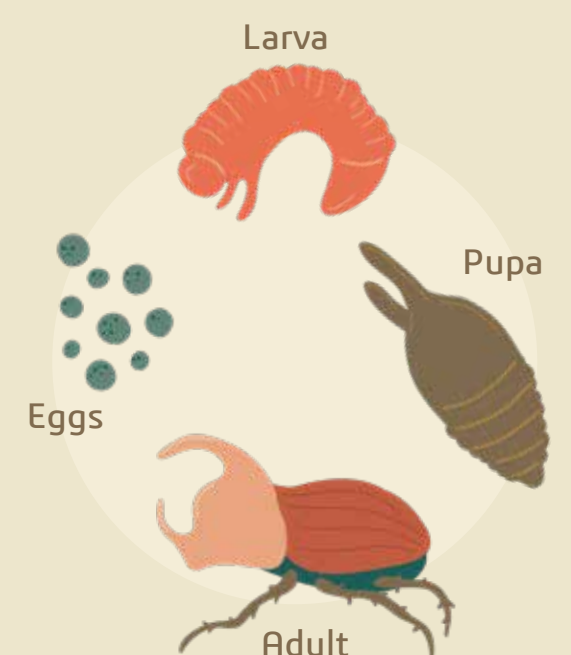
LADYBUG

- Reveal levels of global warming through their migration patterns
- Used by farmers to eliminate pests

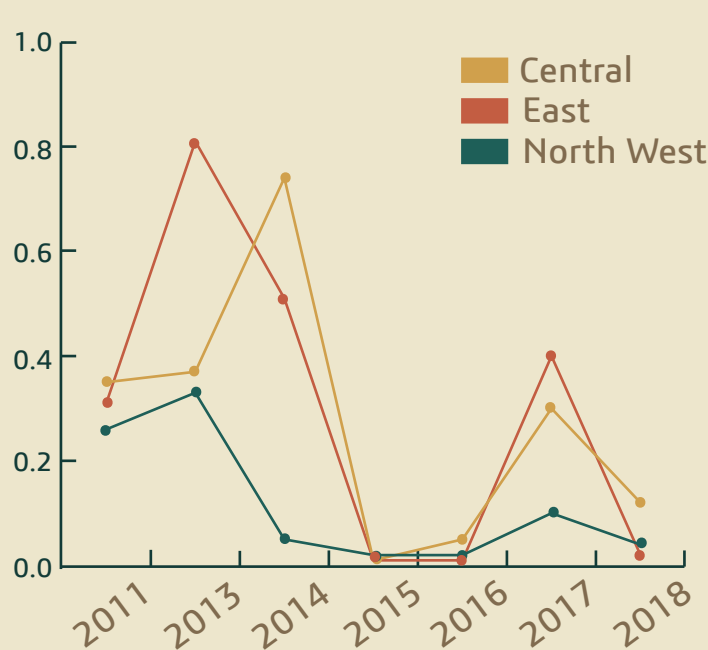
RHINOCEROUS BEETLE

- Commonly eaten in various cultures
- Type of scarab beetle that was revered by Egyptian cultures
- Popular childrens' pets in Asia
- Attracted to lights much like moths
- Produce hissing squeaks when distressed or in danger

LIFE CYCLE OF A RHINOCEROUS BEETLE



POPULATION OF CORN BEETLE OVER TIME



JEWEL BEETLE

- Brightly colored metallic sheen
- Found throughout Australia
- Used to decorate clothing, jewelry, decorative boxes, and religious shrines
- Considered 'wood-boring,' can have detrimental effects on orchard trees



ENVIROMENTAL IMPACT OF BEETLES



BEEETLES WORLDWIDE

- Indicate freshwater quality, ecological continuity of threatened habitats like ancient woodlands
- Excellent measure of local conservation effort and regional biodiversity
- Dig tunnels that provide channels for water, benefiting plants
- Eat garbage and eliminate dead plants

DUNG BEETLES

- Decompose manure on pasturelands that support large herds of livestock
- Prevent build-up of manure from animals, speed up its decay by fungi and bacteria
- Counteract methane production by reducing amount of moisture in dung

'God must have had an "inordinate fondness for beetles"'
- J.B.S. Haldane
(British geneticist, Athiest)