

Ground Beetles and Crickets

Ground Beetles



Ground Beetle constitutes a very large family of common black, brown, yellow, green, or bronze long-legged beetle occurring under stones, boards and similar places. They vary from 1/16 inch to 1 1/2 inches in length. Some are brilliantly colored with metallic green, blues or purples, occasionally spotted with iridescent dots or pits of gold; however the upper surface of the wings is generally a uniform color. The head is narrow and projects forward. Antennae are thread-like 11-segmented, and each arises on the side of the head between the base of the mandible and the eye. The insects feed on other insects and are regarded as mostly beneficial.

Field Cricket



This is the most common field cricket in Kansas and most of the United States. The body is black and the wings are either black or brownish. This cricket lives under stones or other protection, but enters cool, moist basements in hot summers. These crickets eat holes in clothing and drapes, and can damage curing alfalfa seed when gathered in piles. Their food is both plant and animal origin but they are strongly carnivorous.