4-H Day Entomology Judging Contest
2023 Study Guide
Cicada

Types-
- Bush Cicada
- Dog Days Cicada
- Periodical Cicada
- Prairie Cicada

- Measures- .8 to 2”
- Certain cicada species called periodical cicadas spend most of their lives underground and only emerge once every decade or two
Spotted Cucumber Beetle

- Measures 3/16 to ¼”
- Cucumber beetles feed mainly on cucumber, cantaloupe, squash, pumpkin, gourd, and watermelon but may also feed on beans, corn, potatoes and other crops.
Green Lacewings

- 13 species in Kansas
- Around ¼” in length
- Adults feed on nectar, pollen, and honeydew, while the larvae are active predators of soft-bodied insect pests: aphids, thrips, whiteflies, leafhoppers, spider mites and mealybugs
Dobsonfly

- Measures 2-4”
- The larvae are aquatic, living in streams, and the adults are often found along streams as well.
Painted Lady Butterfly

Wing Span is 1 and 3/4”

Butterflies pass through the 4 stages- egg, larva, pupa, and adult. This process is complete metamorphosis.
Tomato Hornworm Moth

- Wingspan is 4-5”
- Large numbers of caterpillars can occur in home gardens and can quickly defoliate plants.
Whitelined Sphinx

Wingspan is 2.5 to 3.5”
Scorpion

- Scorpions in Kansas are not deadly. Their sting is much like a bee.
- 1/8”
Grasshopper

Types-
• Lubber Grasshopper
• Obscure Grasshopper
• Boopedon Grasshopper
• Snakeweed Grasshopper

• Measure 2-5”
Monarch Butterfly

- Wingspan is 3.5-4”
- Butterflies form chrysalises
Praying Mantis

Types:
- Robust Prairie Mantid
- Slender Prairie Mantid
- Carolina Mantid
- Chinese Mantid

- Measure 2-5”
- Praying Mantids are consider friends to farmers and work well as a natural form of pest control, by eating other insects.
Walking Stick

Measures 1-12”
Cicada Killer

- Measures 2”
Cricket

Types-
- Field Cricket
- House Cricket

- Crickets and all true insect have 6 legs.
Stonefly

- .25 to 2.5 inches
- Larvae are aquatic insects

Stonefly Nymph
Asparagus Beetle

- Measures ¼” long
- Insects use their antennae to hear and smell, find and taste food, and feel surfaces
Katydid

- 5 to 2.5 inches
- Also called bush crickets
Bagworm

- ¾ to 1” when mature
- Highly destructive to evergreen trees
Green June Beetle

The green June beetle on a fig leaf.

Photo by J. R. Baker

¾ to 1" long
Blister Beetle

- 3/8 to 1” long
- Most adults feed only on flower parts, but some eat leaves as well.
Ailanthus Webworm

Moth measures ½” long
Bed Bug

4-7mm in length
Bumble Bee

• 10-20mm in length
• Honeybees and bumblebees are social insects that live in colonies
Elm Leaf Beetle

About ¼” long

The elm leaf beetle.

Photo by Joseph Berger, Bugwood.org
Mud Dauber

Types-
• Blue Mud Dauber
• Black and Yellow Mud Dauber

Measures- 7/8- 1” long
Black Swallowtail

- Wing span is 3”
Alfalfa Caterpillar Moth

• Wing span is 2-2 1/2”
• Moths form cocoons
Painted Hickory Borer

- 7/8- 1” long
- Females lay their eggs in severely weakened hickory trees. They do little damage to the tree
Goldenrod Soldier Beetle

- Size is about ½”
- They spend their time in the soil, where they are predators of other insects, eating grasshopper eggs, small caterpillars and other soft-bodied insects.

The goldenrod soldier beetle on goldenrod.

Photo by David Cappaert, Bugwood.org
Asian Lady Beetle

• ¼” long
• Usually 9 spots on wing covers