

LONGHORN BEETLES

COLEOPTERA: CERAMBYCIDAE

200+ species in SC!



Did you know? The antennae of a longhorn beetle can be over twice the length of its body! But not all longhorn beetles have long antennae—some species have antennae under half their body length.

Did you know? Longhorn beetles play an important role in forest ecosystems! As larvae, they recycle dead and dying wood. They digest the wood and return the nutrients to the soil for plants to use.

Did you know? Many species of longhorn beetles find their host trees by detecting chemical signals that the tree sends out! They are drawn to trees that are damaged or stressed, which are more vulnerable targets.

Look and see!



Antennae this short are unusual for a longhorn beetle!

The black and yellow stripes on this beetle's elytra, or hardened forewings, mimic a wasp and protect it from predators!



Some longhorn beetles are brilliantly colored! The elytra on this beetle are covered in setae, or fine hairs.

Beetles use their membranous hindwings to fly! This longhorn beetle is preparing to take off from the surface of a leaf.



Credits:

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Facts: Mississippi Entomological Museum (mississippientomologicalmuseum.org.msstate.edu); MDC Teacher Portal (education.mdc.mo.gov); Wikipedia ([wikipedia.org](https://www.wikipedia.org))

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