



ILLINOIS STATUS

common endangered threatened
 native exotic

ILLINOIS RANGE

Permanent resident: statewide

Summer resident:

Migrant:

Winter resident:

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.

Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume 2: Woodland Habitats CD-ROM.

stag beetle

representative specimen

Kingdom: Animalia
Division/Phylum: Arthropoda
Class: Insecta
Order: Coleoptera
Family: Lucanidae

FEATURES

Stag beetles have antennae that are bent near the club-shaped tip. The long, stout body is red-brown to black. The lower jaws of the male are very large. The branched appearance of the jaws gave rise to the name "stag" beetle, as the jaws are similar to the branching of a stag's antlers. The adult averages about one and one-half inches in length. The larvae are smooth and white.

BEHAVIORS

Stag beetles may be found statewide. The adult lives on the ground in woods. It may fly to lights at night. The adult stag beetle feeds on sap. Its larva lives in rotting wood and feeds on the juices of the rotten wood.

HABITATS

- bottomland forests
- coniferous forest
- southern Illinois lowlands
- upland deciduous forest