



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.

tiger beetle

representative specimen

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

FEATURES

Tiger beetles are from one-half to three-fourths inches in length. The antennae are threadlike. The forewings are nearly parallel-sided. The body narrows in front of the wings and behind the head. The legs are long and slender. Color is variable but many are iridescent or metallic.

BEHAVIORS

Tiger beetles may be found statewide in Illinois. They run and fly very quickly. They are often seen on paths or open areas in woods. The larva and adult are predators of insects. The larva lives in the soil in a tunnel it builds, waiting at the top for possible prey items to come by. It has a spine that can be used to hold itself in place as it fights its prey.

HABITATS

bottomland forests
 coniferous forest
 southern Illinois lowlands
 upland deciduous forest