



planthopper

representative specimen

Kingdom: Animalia
Division/Phylum: Arthropoda
Class: Insecta
Order: Homoptera
Family: Flatidae

FEATURES

Planthoppers are smaller than one-half inch in length. Their body color is most often brown or green, and the body appears wedge-shaped while at rest. They may be distinguished from the similar leafhoppers and treehoppers by the placement of their antennae. Planthopper antennae are located on the side of the head under the eyes. There is a y-shaped vein toward the tip of each forewing. The ocelli, or simple eyes, are in front of the compound eyes on the side of the head. A sharp angle separates the side of the head from the front of the head. Planthoppers undergo simple metamorphosis (egg, nymph, adult).

BEHAVIORS

Planthoppers may be found statewide in Illinois. They feed on the juices of a variety of plant species. Planthoppers jump more often than they fly.

HABITATS

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

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.