

# Entomology 101

## Grasshopper Drawing

We have looked at the grasshopper as a generalized insect. Grasshoppers are “primitive” insects in that they show many of the characteristics that early insects did – they are not very specialized.

You have been given a lubber grasshopper. These brachypterous (small, non-functioning wings) grasshoppers are common in the southeastern United States. They have been collected and soaked in a preservative. They cannot harm you!

Please take your grasshopper home and examine it. Look for the characteristics that define insects. For example, look at the segmentation, the legs (on what tagma do they occur?), the head, and so on. Get a good feel for your grasshopper and insects. Do not be afraid to remove a leg, take the wings off, remove the head and examine it closely, etc.

Please do a lateral view (side) drawing of your insect. Your drawing does not have to be a work of art but please take your time and draw what you see. You can use the handout that I passed out in class as an example. Label the parts that we have discussed in class and those that you see on the specimen. Again, take your time and enjoy yourself.

Please make sure you find and label the:

- Head
- Compound eye
- Ocellus (if there)
- Mandible
- Palpi
- Antennae
- Pro-, meso-, and meta-thorax
- Fore- and hind-wings
- Each of the legs
- Spiracles
- Gonopore
- An abdominal segment or two
- Cercus

Indicate the dorsal and ventral surfaces of your grasshopper  
What type (functional) legs does it have?