



Fundamentals of Entomology (6th Edition)

By Richard J. Elzinga Professor Emeritus

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Using an exceptionally clear writing style, minimal scientific jargon, and vivid photos and drawings, this book provides a comprehensive view of the fundamentals of entomology. It captures the rich diversity and complexity of insects and their influence upon the ecosystem—*without* turning readers off with excessive details. Chapter topics cover the arthropod plan, the insect externally and internally; development and specialization; ecology; behavior; parasitism by insects; predation by insects; insects, plants, livestock, domestic animals, and humans; insect pest management; household insects; classification; and making an insect collection. For the study of insects.

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Editorial Review

From the Publisher

This text provides a clear, accessible introduction to the world of insects. Elzinga addresses topics on an introductory level, condensing the diversity and complexity of insects and their influence upon the ecosystem into a useful insect framework. The Fourth Edition has been both updated and expanded to track the latest developments in the field.

From the Back Cover

Now in its sixth edition, *Fundamentals of Entomology* remains one of the most comprehensive and user-friendly entomology texts on the market. Developed with beginning students of agriculture, education, and biology in mind, this text's elementary approach allows easy accessibility for anyone wishing to learn the basics of entomology. In addition, the author has incorporated new chapters, photographs, keys, and updated materials to keep up with the latest research. Challenging, but with a minimal amount of "big" words. *Fundamentals of Entomology* continues to deliver a wealth of natural history balanced with a mix of basic and applied entomological applications.

New features include:

- An increased IPM section, including genetic engineering and transgenics
- Enlarged sections on disease transmission and medicine
- A new discussion on insect-utilizing plants
- An expanded ecology chapter, including a discussion on coevolution and biomes
- Additional coverage on leaf-rolling, skeletonizing, and gall formations
- Newly enhanced photographs

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Insects are one of the most remarkable animal groups on the earth, and they merit study for at least two major reasons. First, insects have unsurpassed diversity and niches; because of this extensive variation, these animals can provide an in-depth understanding of nature and the many ways that biological problems have been met. They witnessed the rise and fall of dinosaurs and were the first creatures to fly. Approximately 70 to 75 percent of the known species of animals are classified as insects, and 31 orders and about 600 families are found in North America north of Mexico (Borror and Johnson, 1989). Insects fly, they jump, they hide, they see ultraviolet light, they produce and molt an extraordinary exoskeleton, and they possess magnificent colors and shapes. Few habitats exclude insects. In withstanding harsh environments they are unparalleled. Some insects live in the arid deserts, some in hot springs up to 80° C, others on mountain peaks as high as 6,096 m, some in tropical rain forests, and there are insects that live in arctic temperatures that reach below –20°C.

A second major reason to study insects is that a knowledge of insects is essential as we manipulate ecosystems for increased food production and better health. Back in the early 1900s, many entomologists were concerned about the competition for food between humankind and insects, and some entomologists believed that insect control was imperative for survival of the human race. Although such a position may seem somewhat extreme, insects do consume or spoil crops and products, causing millions of people to

starve each year. And insect-transmitted diseases, to both humans and their crops, remain a threat to health and civilizations.

In the mid-1970s students and professionals encouraged me to write an introductory text that would condense the diversity of insects and their influence on the ecosystem into a basic insect plan. The text was developed so as to be truly elementary so that students in entomology, agriculture, education, and biology could read and understand the material with their particular backgrounds. Each new edition incorporated new chapters, photographs, keys, and updated materials as research unveiled new ideas and understanding.

My gratitude is expressed to the many students, colleagues, reviewers, publishing professionals, and to my understanding and supportive family, who have contributed to and encouraged this publication. I wish to especially thank Dewey M. Carom University of Delaware, for his valuable feedback during my preparation of this edition. Acknowledgment is extended to those who loaned or gave permission to use illustrations and photographs. Scanning electron microscope photographs were taken in the SEM Laboratory, Kansas State University.

RICHARD J. ELZINGA
Manhattan, Kansas

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Harold Graham:

Spent a free a chance to be fun activity to try and do! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, planning to beach, or picnic within the park. They actually doing ditto every week. Do you feel it? Would you like to something different to fill your personal free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book may be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of e-book that you should read. If you want to try look for book, may be the book untitled Fundamentals of Entomology (6th Edition) can be fine book to read. May be it could be best activity to you.

Crystal Sanchez:

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