

General Information

Earwigs get their name from the myth that they crawl into sleeping people's ears and tunnel into the brain. They don't really do that!

There are 22 types of Earwigs in the United States and there are over a 1,000 different species all over the world.

Size	1"	Common Name	Earwig
Shape	Long, narrow	Kingdom	Animalia
Color	Dark Brown	Phylum	Arthropoda
Legs	6	Class	Insecta
Wings	No	Order	Dermaptera
Antenna	Yes	Family	Forficulidae
		Genus Species	Forficula auricularia

Diet

Earwigs feed on leaves, flowers, fruits, mold and insects.

Habitat

These insects hide during the day and live outdoors in large numbers. They can be found under piles of lawn clippings, compost or in tree holes. They enter buildings through cracks in the walls.

Impact

They do not spread diseases, but they can be scary to look at.

Prevention

- * Remove leaf piles, compost piles or other vegetation from around your home.
- * Seal cracks and crevices in the walls of your house.

To learn more about this and other pests, visit <http://www.pestworldforkids.org/research.html>