

Phasmida

Common Name: Walkingsticks, leaf insects.

Metamorphosis: Hemimetabolous.

CHARACTERISTICS

Body: Medium to quite large, North American species stick-like; others resemble leaves or flower petals.

Head: Hypognathous.

Mouthparts: Ectognathous; chewing.

Eyes: Compound eyes small.

Antennae: Long and filiform.

Wings: North American species are wingless (except 1 species in Florida).

Legs: Not modified or enlarged, walking type legs; usually 5 tarsal segments. Can regenerate legs.

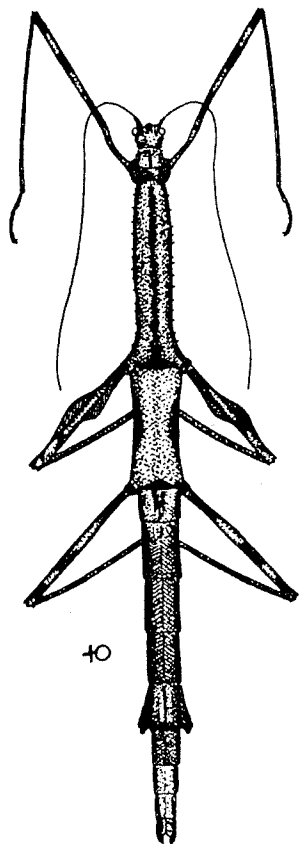
Abdomen: With pair of short, 1-segmented cerci; female ovipositor is short and concealed. Lack tympana and stridulatory organs.

Comments: Usually found in trees or shrubs where their stick-like appearance affords them protection. They also can emit a foul odor for defense.

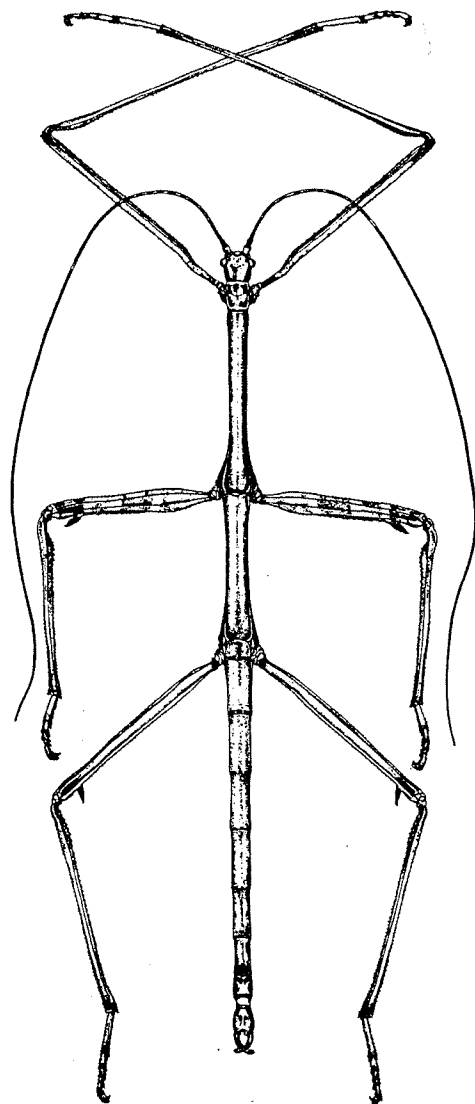
FAMILIES

Heteronemiidae: The common walkingsticks. The wings are absent; the 1st abdominal tergum is much shorter than the metanotum; the vertex lacks spines.

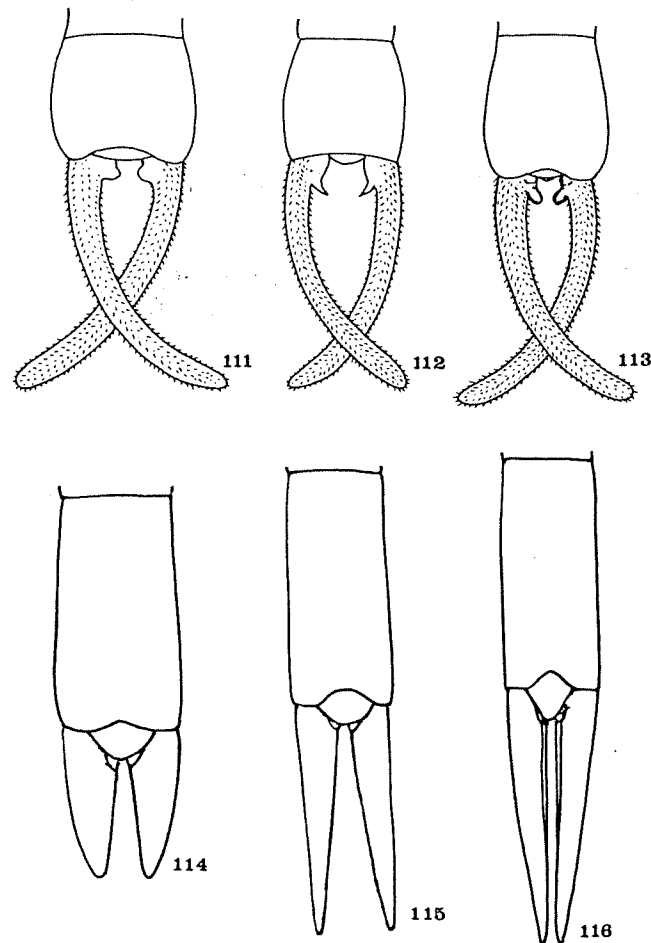
Phasmida (Cheleutoptera)
Family Heteronemiidae
 Common walking sticks



Sermyle mexicana (Saussure)



Diapheromera femorata (Say) Walkingstick



Figs. 111-116. *Diapheromera* spp., abdominal terminalia showing cerci. 111-113, male; 114-116, female; 111, 114, *D. femorata*; 112, 115, *D. velii velii*; 113, 116, *D. blatchleyi blatchleyi*.