

Genus *Megaphasma*

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS:

Five tarsomeres. Antennae longer than front leg femurs in both sexes.
 Mesothorax is four times longer (or more) than the prothorax.
 Femurs of the middle and hind legs have numerous spines underneath.

Megaphasma denticrus

Giant Walkingstick

RECOGNIZABLE CHARACTERS:

Largest phasmid in North America. Specimens known to reach 15 centimeters.
 Greenish to reddish-brown in coloration.

REPRESENTATIVE DISTRIBUTION:

Alabama: Yell Co.

Arkansas: Carroll Co., Johnson Co., Logan Co., Montgomery Co., Newton Co. (*cover*)

Illinois: LaSalle Co., Randolph Co.

Indiana: Clark Co.

Iowa: Boone Co., Fremont Co., Page Co., Webster Co.

Kansas: Anderson Co.

Kentucky: Jefferson Co.

Louisiana: East Baton Rouge Parish, St. Landry Parish

Mississippi: Hinds Co.

Missouri: Crawford Co., Dallas Co., Greene Co., Iron Co., Jasper Co., Miller Co., Morgan Co.,
 Stone Co., Taney Co.

New Mexico: Dona Ana Co.

Oklahoma: Adair Co., Cherokee Co., Latimer Co., LeFlore Co.

Texas: Anderson Co., Bandera Co., Bastrop Co., Bexar Co., Brewster Co., Burleson Co.,
 Burnet Co., Comal Co., De Witt Co., Grimes Co., Kerr Co., Lee Co., Milam Co., Real Co.,
 Travis Co., Victoria Co., Wharton Co., Williamson Co.

Wisconsin: Sauk Co.

REPRESENTATIVE HABITAT AND FOOD PLANTS:

Grass, grape vines, oak, elm, and mesquite.

Genus *Parabacillus*

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERS:

Five tarsomeres.

Mesothorax is four times longer (or more) than the prothorax.

Antennae shorter than front leg femurs in both sexes.

Parabacillus coloradus

Colorado Short-Horned Walkingstick

RECOGNIZABLE CHARACTERS:

Slender, up to about 7 centimeters in length.

Found in various shades of brown, sometimes with paler stripes on the head.

In males, the length of the last abdominal segment is about two times its width.

Hebard (1934) suggested that northern populations may be parthenogenic.

There has been confusion in the overlapping ranges between *coloradus* and *hesperus*.

Further study will be needed to establish the true boundaries or intergrade zone.

REPRESENTATIVE DISTRIBUTION:

Arizona: Cochise Co., Coconino Co., Mohave Co., Pima Co., Pinal Co., Sta. Cruz Co.,
Yavapai Co.

Colorado: Alamosa Co., Boulder Co., Fremont Co., Garfield Co., Huerfano Co., Larimer Co.,
Las Animas Co., Mesa Co., Moffat Co., Montezuma Co., Otero Co.

Kansas: Hamilton Co.

Nebraska: Cheyenne Co., Kimball Co., Lincoln Co.

New Mexico: Bernalillo Co., Chaves Co., Colfax Co., Curry Co., Eddy Co., McKinley Co.,
Mora Co., Quay Co., Roosevelt Co., Socorro Co.

Oklahoma: Ellis Co., Harper Co., Texas Co.

South Dakota: Brule Co., Jones Co., Walworth Co.

Texas: Brewster Co., Dallam Co., Hemphill Co., Jeff Davis Co., Lubbock Co., Presidio Co.,
Terrell Co.

Utah: Cache Co., Carbon Co., Grand Co., Tooele Co., Salt Lake Co., Washington Co.

Wyoming: Laramie Co.

REPRESENTATIVE HABITAT AND FOOD PLANTS:

Mountainous regions and grasslands.

Grasses.

BEHAVIOR:

Egg capsules are similar in shape and coloration to grass-seeds. They are affixed by the female to substrates with an adhesive.

Parabacillus hesperus

Western Short-Horned Walkingstick

RECOGNIZABLE CHARACTERS:

In males, the last abdominal segment is about as wide as long.

P. hesperus from Santa Cruz Island are distinctly smaller than the mainland population.

Males are medium sized, and very slender. Females are longer and more robust.

Usually straw-colored, but some are light brown or light red-brown.

Hebard (1934) suggested that northern populations may be parthenogenic.

REPRESENTATIVE DISTRIBUTION:

Arizona: Cochise Co., Coconino Co., La Paz Co., Navajo Co., Pima Co., Pinal Co., Santa Cruz Co., Yuma Co.

California: Contra Costa Co., Los Angeles Co., Riverside Co., San Bernardino Co., San Diego Co., Santa Barbara Co.

Nevada: Clark Co., Lincoln Co.

New Mexico: Grant Co.

Oregon: Harney Co., Morrow Co.

Texas: Randall Co.

Utah: Beaver Co., Washington Co.

REPRESENTATIVE HABITAT AND FOOD PLANTS:

Often associated with mountains. Chaparral.

Range grasses, burroweed, globemallow (*Sphaeralcea*), buckwheat (*Eriogonum*).