

What is the largest group of insects on Earth?

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Beetles are the largest group of insects on Earth, representing one-quarter of all living organisms and one-third of all animals. They are represented by nearly 350,000 species and more than 150 families. The longhorn beetles ([*Cerambycidae*](#)) are a family of beetles characterised by their extremely long [antennae](#), which is often longer than the beetle's body. The antennae have sophisticated receptors to detect food, locate egg-laying sites and assess temperature and humidity. Male beetle species that rely heavily on specific scents or [pheromones](#) to locate mating partners usually have elaborate antennal structures to increase their powers of smell.