

Cicada

Classification:

Kingdom : Animalia

Phylum : Arthropoda

Class : Insecta

Family : Cicadoidea

Order : Hemiptera

Genus : Magicicada



For further details, [Link](#)

Characteristics:

- A large insect that lives in many hot countries. It makes a continuous high sound by rubbing its legs together.
- **Size:** Cicadas are typically 1 to 2 inches (2.5 to 5 centimetres) long.
- **Body:** They have a stout, robust body.
- **Wings:** They have two pairs of clear, membranous wings, often with prominent veins.
- **Eyes:** They have large, prominent compound eyes and three smaller, simple eyes (ocelli) on the top of their heads.
- **Colour:** Adults are often black or green with orange or red markings. Nymphs are typically a dark brown colour.
- **Antennae:** Their antennae are short and bristle-like.
- **Mouthparts:** Cicadas have a beak-like structure (rostrum) with needle-like stylets used for feeding on plant sap.
- **Sound Production:** Male cicadas produce loud, characteristic buzzing sounds to attract mates using specialized organs called tymbals.
- **Ecological Role:** Cicadas play a role in the ecosystem by pruning mature trees, aerating the soil, and providing nutrients when they decompose.

Life Cycle:

- **Eggs:** Female cicadas lay their eggs in slits cut into tree branches and twigs.

- **Nymphs:** The newly hatched nymphs burrow into the ground and feed on plant roots.
- **Adults:** After several years (or even 13 or 17 years for periodical cicadas), the nymphs emerge from the ground, molt into adults, and begin their reproductive phase.

Habit and Habitat :

- **Diverse Environments:** Cicadas are found in various habitats worldwide, from tropical rainforests to desert scrub and temperate forests.
- **Forests:** They are commonly found in natural forests with large trees, often being canopy dwellers.
- **Urban Areas:** Cicadas can also adapt to urban environments, living in trees and shrubs in parks and gardens.
- **Specific Regions:** In India, cicadas are found in the Western Ghats, Himalayas, and Northeast India, as well as drier regions and urban areas.
- **Geographic Range:** Many species are found in the eastern United States, particularly east of the Mississippi River, with some extending to more southern and northern states.