

INSECT MORPHOLOGY

Lab 5 - Pterothorax

A. The Pterothoracic Nota:

- 1) Prepare a drawing of the pterothoracic nota (dorsal view) of the grasshopper (*Romalea* sp.), showing the structures described below:

The notum of the metathoracic segment is divided into two major areas, and anterior **alinotum** and a posterior **postnotum**. The postnotum is the expanded acrotergite of the next segment behind. The alinotum is divided by the **scuto-scutellar suture** (v-shaped) into an anterior large sclerite, the **scutum**, and a posterior smaller sclerite, the **scutellum**. The **prescutal suture** separates the scutum anteriorly from the narrow **prescutum**. The **anterior** and **posterior notal wing processes** are articulations of the wing, and are located at the lateral margins of the scutum and scutellum. The **axillary cords** form the posterior margin of the wing base and are located posteriorly from the scutellum.

B. The Pterothoracic Sterna:

- 1) Prepare a drawing of the pterothoracic sterna (ventral view) of the grasshopper (*Romalea* sp.), and show the structures described below:

The **sternacostal suture** divides the large plate of the sternum into an anterior large sclerite the **basisternum**, and the smaller posterior sclerite, the **sternellum**. The narrow **presternum** is separated posteriorly from the basisternum by the **presternal suture**. The location of the furcal apodemes is marked by two **furcal pits** located just posterior from the center of the sternacostal suture. The **spinal pit** is located posteriorly from the first pair of furcal pits.