

Dermaptera

Common Name: Earwigs.

Etymology: Dema- = skin; -ptera = wing.

Metamorphosis: Hemimetabolous.

CHARACTERISTICS

Body: Small to medium-sized, elongate, dark, well-sclerotized bodies.

Head: Prognathous head, broad or small.

Mouthparts: Ectognathous; chewing.

Eyes: Compound eyes present in most, vestigial or absent in others; dorsal ocelli absent.

Antennae: Usually long, slender, filiform.

Wings: Forewings short, leathery; hindwings membranous, semicircular in shape with radially arranged veins; hindwings folded fan-like beneath forewings; wingless forms relatively common.

Legs: Strong, with 3-segmented tarsi and paired tarsal claws.

Abdomen: Forcep-like, unsegmented cerci; abdomen not covered by wings. Repugnatory glands on 2nd or 3rd abdominal segment.

Comments: Cerci may be used in prey capture, defense, folding and unfolding wings, and possibly during copulation. Most earwigs are nocturnal and prefer damp situations. They are omnivorous feeders, some are parasitic.

FAMILIES

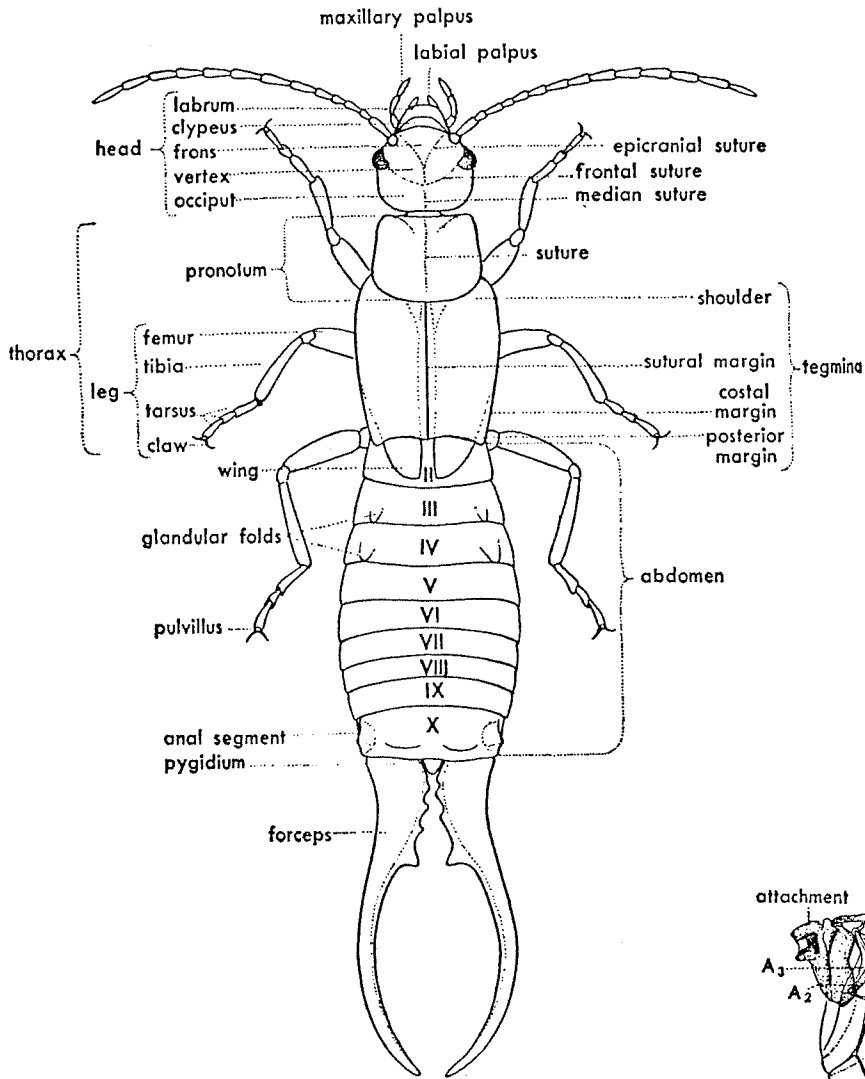
Forficulidae: 2nd tarsal segment lobed beneath; 12-15 antennal segments. Includes the European earwig.

Labiidae: 2nd tarsal segment cylindrical; 10-16 antennal segments, segments 4-6 longer than 1st segment. They are relatively uncommon and seem to prefer moist (swamp) areas.

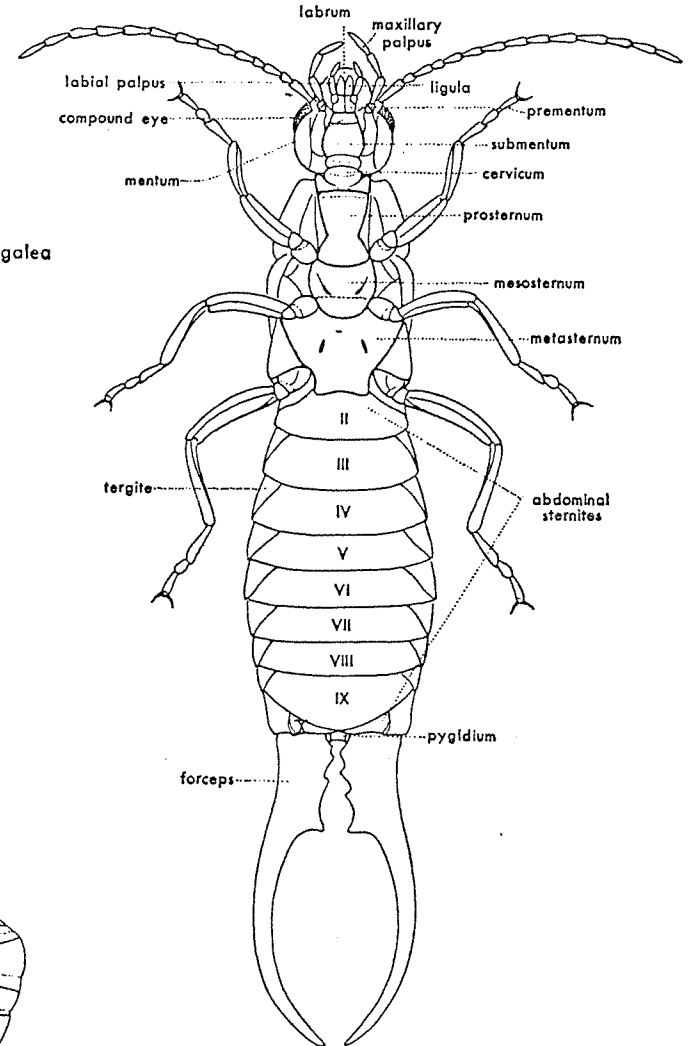
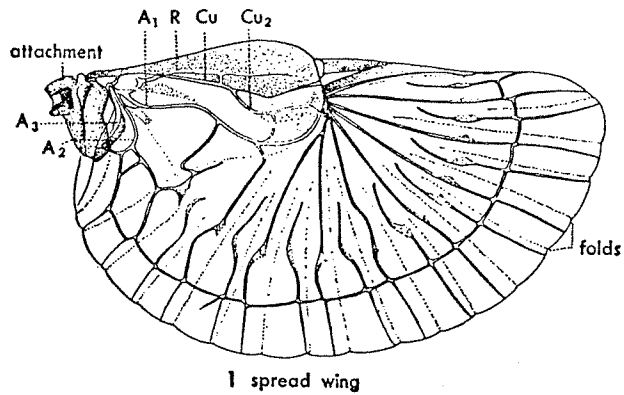
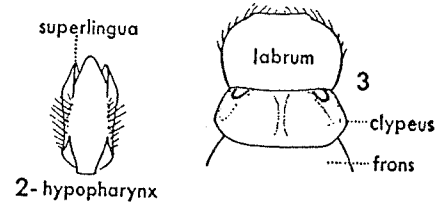
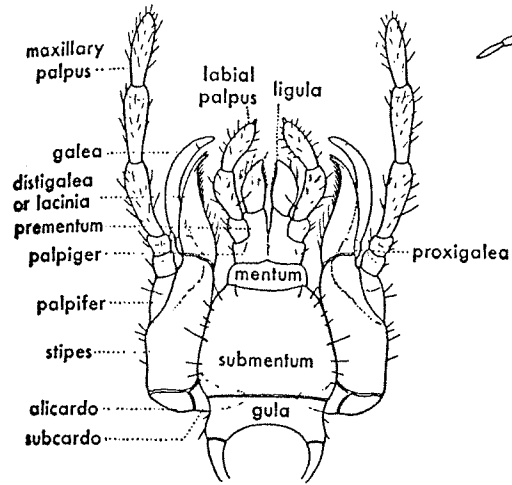
Labiduridae: 2nd tarsal segment cylindrical; 14-24 antennal segments, segments 4-6 rarely longer than 1st segment; if there is a pale colored segment about 3/4 out the flagellum then it will usually be a Labiduridae.

Order Dermaptera

Earwigs

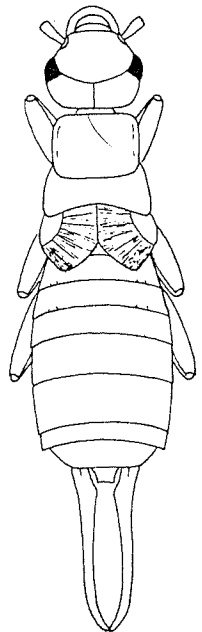
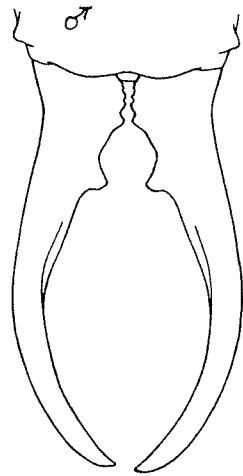
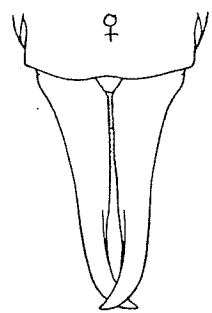
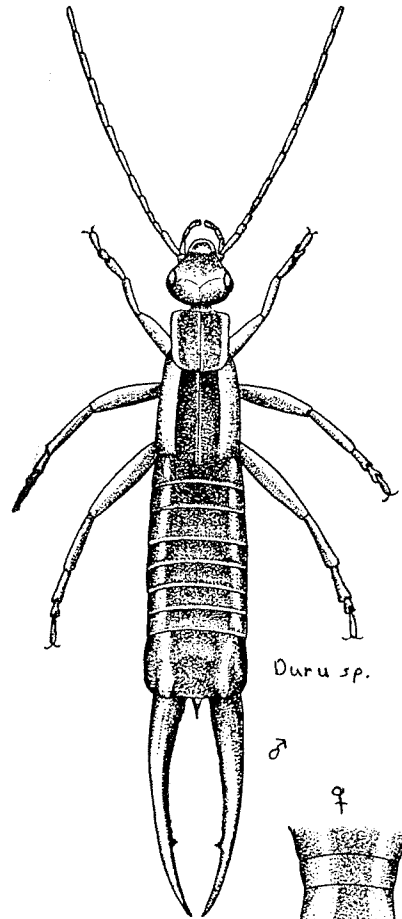
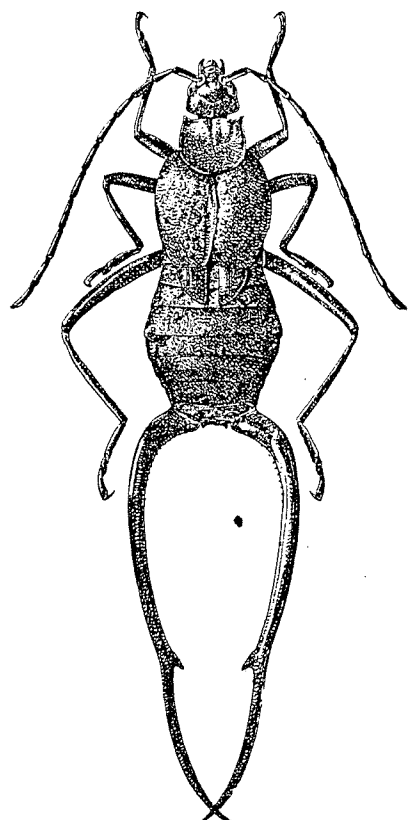
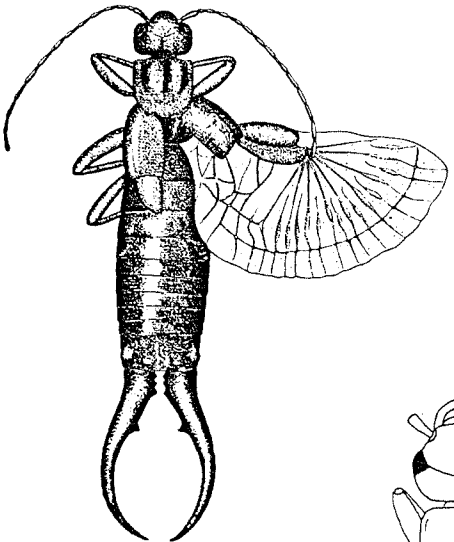
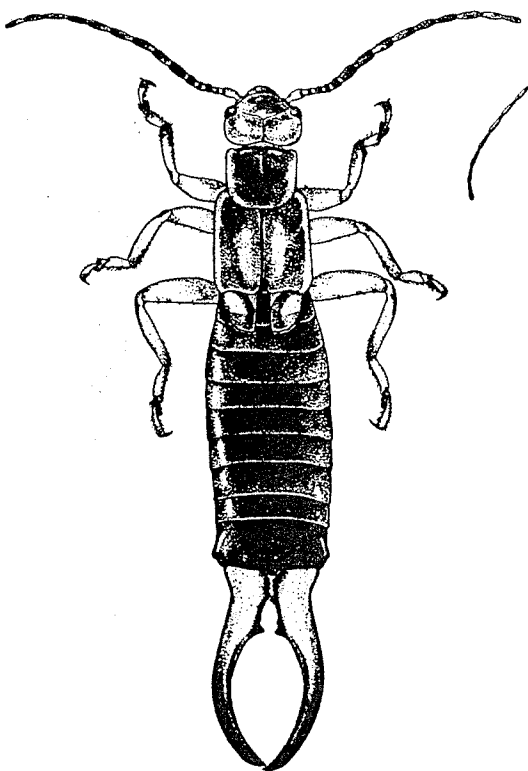


European earwig, *Forficula auricularia* Linn.



European earwig. Ventral aspect.

Dermaptera
Family Forficulidae
European and Spine-tailed Earwigs

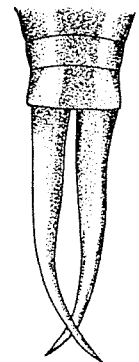


nymph

Allodahlia scabriuscula Gerv.,
(Forficulidae).



Forficula auricularia

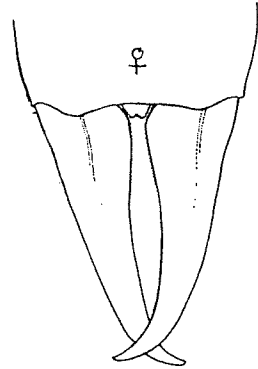
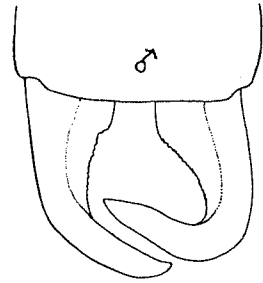
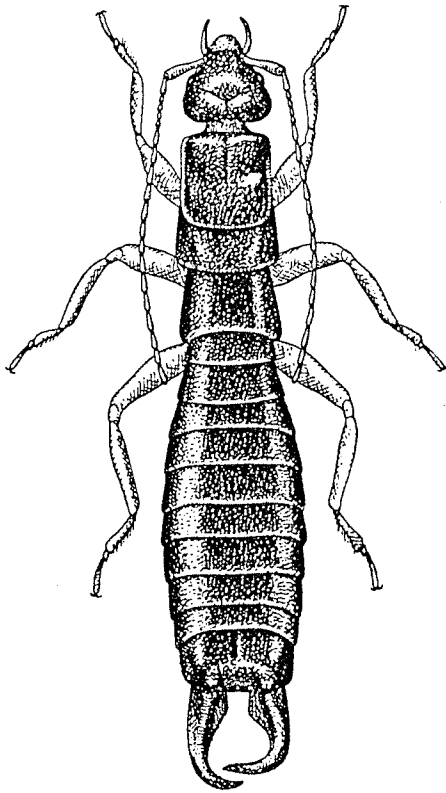


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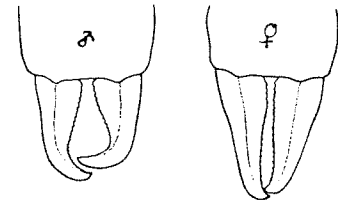
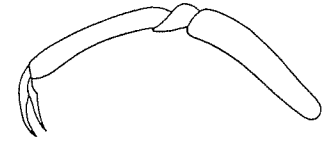
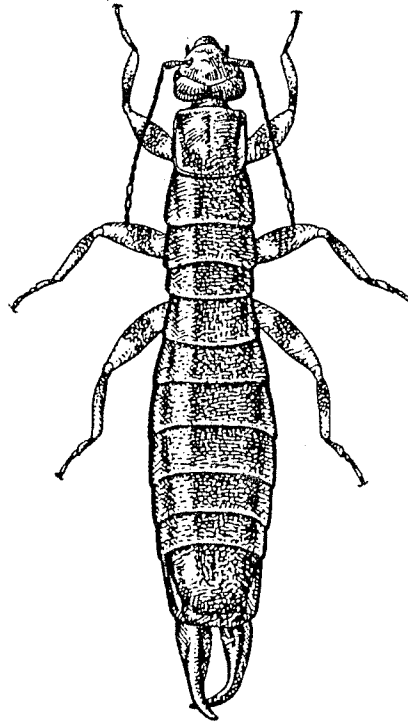
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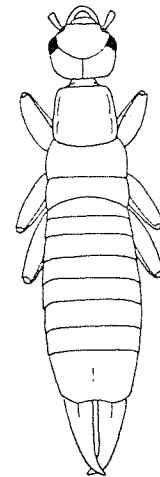
Dermaptera
Family Carcinophoridae
Ring-legged and Seaside Earwigs



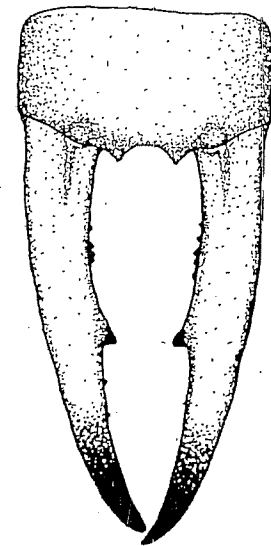
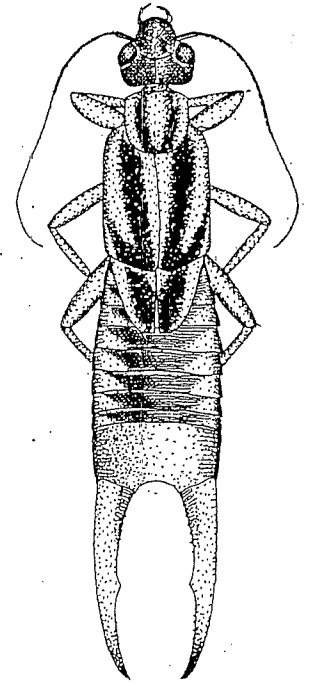
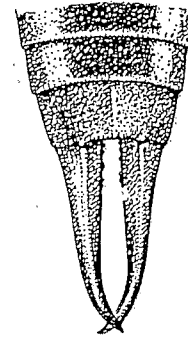
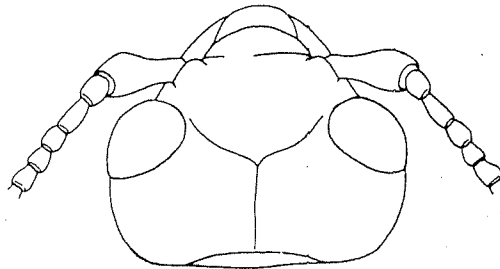
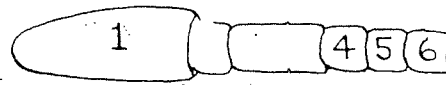
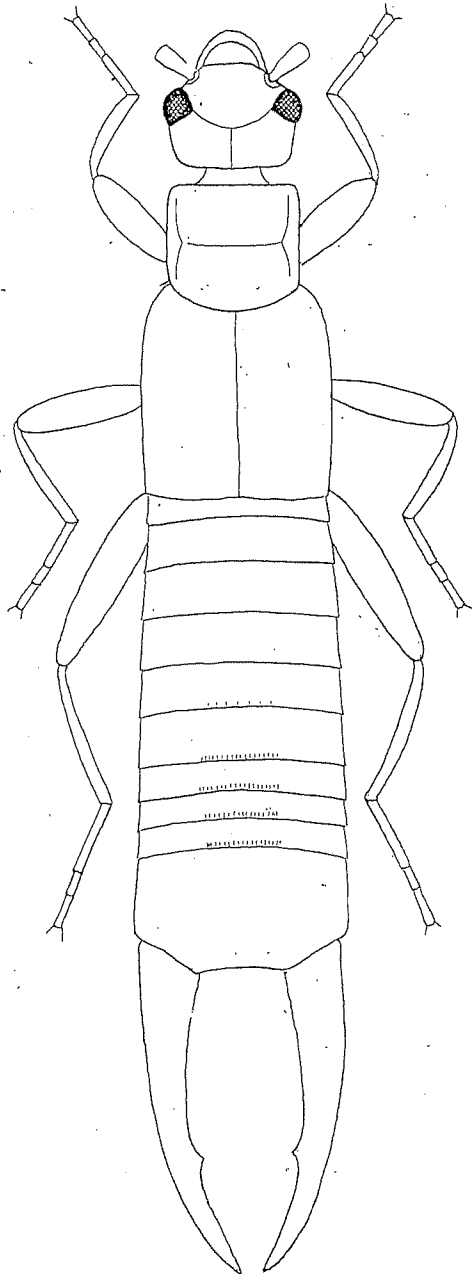
Anisolabis maritima.



Euborellia annulipes.

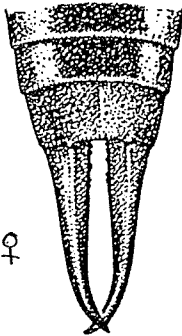
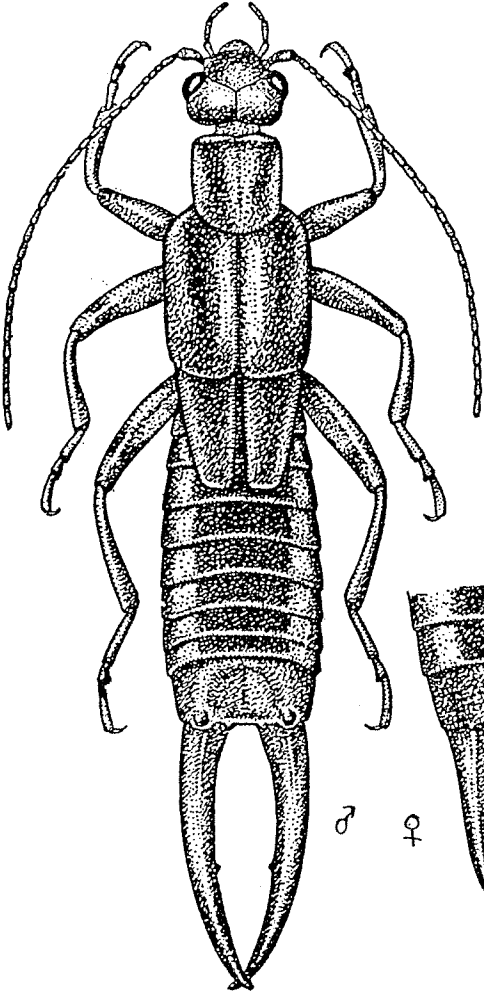


Dermaptera
Family Labiduridae
Striped Earwigs

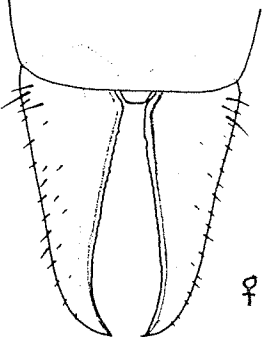
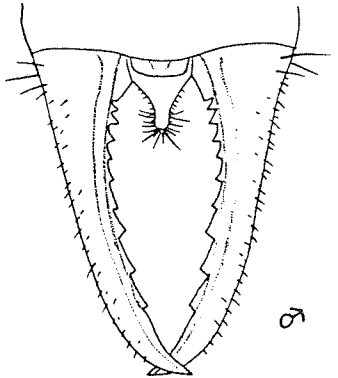
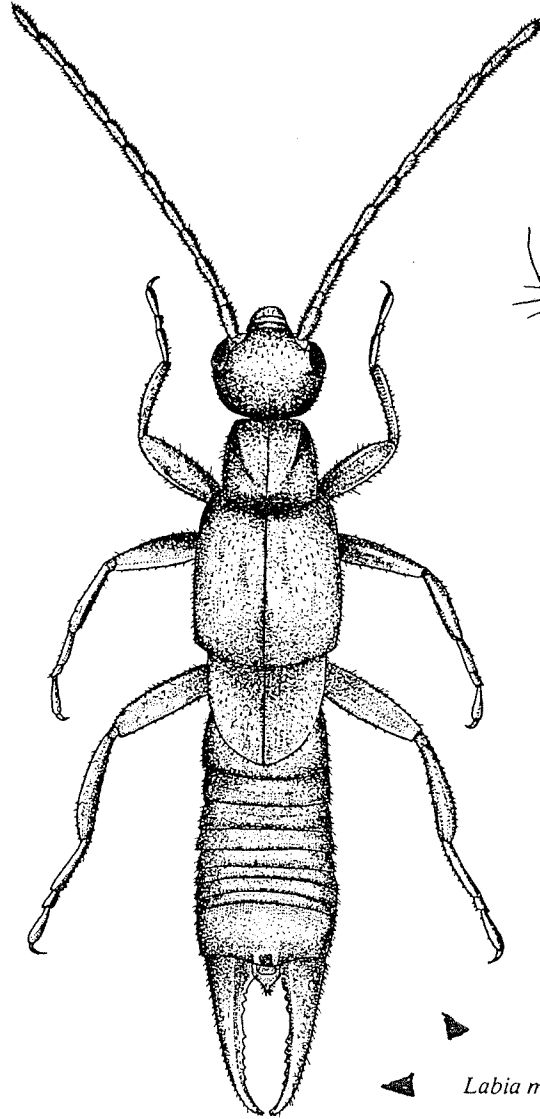
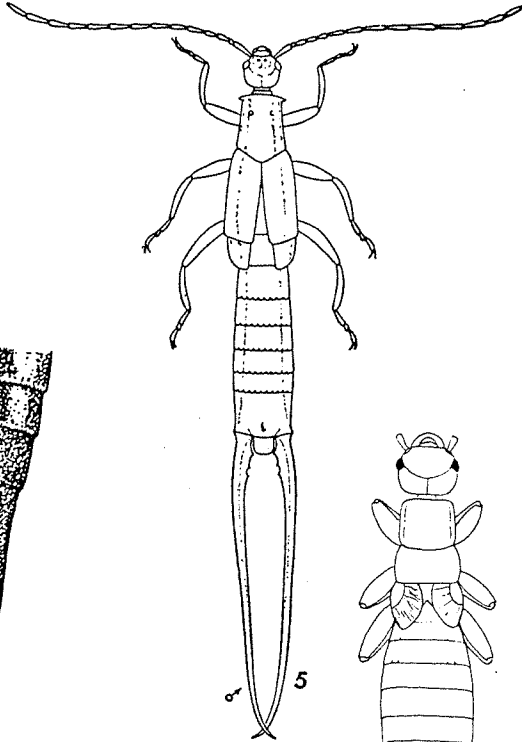
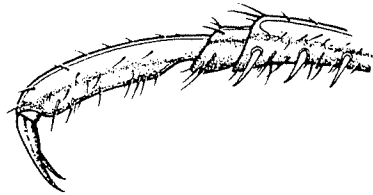


—*Labidura xanthopus* (Stål), male, dorsal.

Dermaptera
Family Labiidae
Little Earwigs



Marava arachidis



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Labia minor.