

# Missouri FFA Entomology CDE Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

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# Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

**Remember:** successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

# How to Use This Guide

**This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:**

## **1. Start with a Diagnostic Review**

**Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.**

## **2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions**

**Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.**

## **3. Learn from the Explanations**

**After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.**

## **4. Track Your Progress**

**Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.**

## **5. Simulate the Real Exam**

**Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.**

## **6. Repeat and Review**

**Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.**

**There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!**

## Questions

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- 1. Which insect is in order Plecoptera?**
  - A. Surplus Fly**
  - B. Tent Caterpillar Moth**
  - C. Stonefly**
  - D. Termite**
  
- 2. Which insect is a beetle with complete metamorphosis?**
  - A. Water Strider**
  - B. Western Corn Rootworm**
  - C. White-Lined Sphinx Moth**
  - D. Yellowjacket**
  
- 3. Which insect belongs to Lepidoptera and mouth parts Sucking?**
  - A. Ground Beetle**
  - B. Indian Meal Moth**
  - C. Hog Louse**
  - D. House Cricket**
  
- 4. Aphid mouth parts are which?**
  - A. Chewing**
  - B. Sucking**
  - C. Lapping**
  - D. Piercing**
  
- 5. Which insect is the Carpet Beetle?**
  - A. Carpet Beetle**
  - B. Carrion Beetle**
  - C. Click Beetle**
  - D. Codling Moth**
  
- 6. Which Orthopteran is described as short-horned and has simple metamorphosis with chewing mouthparts?**
  - A. Differential Grasshopper**
  - B. Field Cricket**
  - C. Earwig**
  - D. Damsel Bug**

**7. Which species is a Rice Weevil?**

- A. Rice Weevil**
- B. Rove Beetle**
- C. Saw-Toothed Grain Beetle**
- D. Paper Wasp**

**8. Which insect has very long antennae typical of a long-horned beetle?**

- A. Long-Horned Beetle**
- B. Luna Moth**
- C. Lace Bug**
- D. Leafhopper**

**9. Southern Corn Rootworm belongs to which order?**

- A. Coleoptera**
- B. Diptera**
- C. Lepidoptera**
- D. Blattodea**

**10. Which insect is in order Lepidoptera and is commonly referred to as a moth?**

- A. Viceroy Butterfly**
- B. Tiger Moth**
- C. Walking Stick**
- D. Velvet Ant**

## Answers

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1. C
2. B
3. B
4. B
5. A
6. A
7. A
8. A
9. A
10. B

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## **Explanations**

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### 1. Which insect is in order Plecoptera?

- A. Surplus Fly
- B. Tent Caterpillar Moth
- C. Stonefly**
- D. Termite

Plecoptera are stoneflies. This order is defined by insects whose aquatic immature stages (naiads) live in streams and rivers, and whose adults have long, slender bodies with two pairs of wings held flat over the back. The paired tail-like appendages on the nymphs and the overall shape of stoneflies help them stand out from other orders. The option that names a stonefly fits Plecoptera, while the tent caterpillar moth is a Lepidopteran, termites are in Blattodea, and a so-called surplus fly would be a fly genus or order such as Diptera. So the stonefly is the insect in Plecoptera.

### 2. Which insect is a beetle with complete metamorphosis?

- A. Water Strider
- B. Western Corn Rootworm**
- C. White-Lined Sphinx Moth
- D. Yellowjacket

Complete metamorphosis means the insect goes through four life stages—egg, larva, pupa, and adult—with the larval form usually looking very different from the adult. Beetles, in the order Coleoptera, all undergo this four-stage development. The Western Corn Rootworm is a beetle, so it follows that complete metamorphosis. The water strider isn't a beetle; it's a true bug (Hemiptera) and has incomplete metamorphosis (egg, nymph, adult). The white-lined sphinx moth is a Lepidoptera and also undergoes complete metamorphosis, and the yellowjacket is a Hymenoptera, which also has complete metamorphosis—neither is a beetle, though.

### 3. Which insect belongs to Lepidoptera and mouth parts Sucking?

- A. Ground Beetle
- B. Indian Meal Moth**
- C. Hog Louse
- D. House Cricket

Lepidoptera, the moths and butterflies, have mouthparts adapted into a siphoning, coiled proboscis for feeding on liquids. The Indian Meal Moth is a true moth, so it belongs to Lepidoptera, and its adult mouthparts are of the sucking type designed to sip fluids. The other insects listed come from different orders with different mouthpart designs: a ground beetle has chewing mouthparts, a hog louse has piercing-sucking mouthparts, and a house cricket has chewing mouthparts. So the Indian Meal Moth is the one that fits Lepidoptera with sucking mouthparts.

#### 4. Aphid mouth parts are which?

- A. Chewing
- B. Sucking**
- C. Lapping
- D. Piercing

Aphids feed by sucking plant sap using piercing-sucking mouthparts. They have slender stylets formed by the maxillae and mandibles that pierce plant tissue to reach the phloem, and then they suck the sap up through these stylets. So the mouthpart function is best described as sucking, since the key action is drawing liquid from the plant. Chewing, lapping, and piercing alone don't capture this feeding mode as accurately, because aphids don't chew solid material, and the notable feature is the suction of liquid sap through piercing structures.

#### 5. Which insect is the Carpet Beetle?

- A. Carpet Beetle**
- B. Carrion Beetle
- C. Click Beetle
- D. Codling Moth

Carpet beetles are small, round beetles with a distinctive mottled pattern on their backs. They're only about 2-4 mm long and often look like tiny specks of white, brown, and yellow. This combination of size, shape, and color pattern is what identifies them as carpet beetles, whose larvae commonly damage natural fibers like wool and stored fabrics. Among the options, the insect that matches this name and characteristics is the carpet beetle. The other insects—carrion beetle (larger and usually black with orange markings), click beetle (elongated with a snapping mechanism), and codling moth (a moth whose larvae bore into fruit)—are not carpet beetles.

#### 6. Which Orthopteran is described as short-horned and has simple metamorphosis with chewing mouthparts?

- A. Differential Grasshopper**
- B. Field Cricket
- C. Earwig
- D. Damsel Bug

Short-horned orthopterans are grasshoppers and their relatives that have antennae shorter than their bodies, chewing mouthparts, and undergo incomplete metamorphosis (egg, nymphs, then adult). The differential grasshopper fits these traits exactly: it's a grasshopper with short antennae, strong chewing mandibles, and a life cycle without a pupal stage. The field cricket has long antennae and would be categorized as long-horned, so it doesn't match the description. Earwig and damsel bug aren't Orthoptera and have different mouthparts or life cycles, so they don't fit either.

## 7. Which species is a Rice Weevil?

- A. Rice Weevil**
- B. Rove Beetle**
- C. Saw-Toothed Grain Beetle**
- D. Paper Wasp**

Recognizing stored-product pests, the Rice Weevil is a small, brown snout beetle with a long rostrum and four pale spots on its wing covers that form a cross pattern. It bores into rice and other cereals to lay eggs inside the grain, so it's the classic species associated with stored grains. The other insects listed are not grain-boring weevils: rove beetles have elongated bodies with exposed abdominal segments, saw-toothed grain beetles lack a long snout and have saw-like margins on the prothorax, and paper wasps are social wasps unrelated to stored grains.

## 8. Which insect has very long antennae typical of a long-horned beetle?

- A. Long-Horned Beetle**
- B. Luna Moth**
- C. Lace Bug**
- D. Leafhopper**

Long antennae are the defining feature of long-horned beetles. In this group, the antennae are very long, often at least as long as the beetle's body or longer, giving them a distinctive "horned" look. That makes the insect called Long-Horned Beetle the best match for a description emphasizing very long antennae. The Luna Moth does have large wings and can have noticeable antennae, especially in males, but moths aren't identified by extremely long antennae in the same way beetles are, and their antennae are usually described as feathery rather than simply very long. Lace bugs and leafhoppers are small true bugs with relatively short antennae and other features that distinguish them from the long-horned beetle.

## 9. Southern Corn Rootworm belongs to which order?

- A. Coleoptera**
- B. Diptera**
- C. Lepidoptera**
- D. Blattodea**

Beetles have a pair of hardened forewings called elytra that protect the hindwings and abdomen, and they typically have chewing mouthparts. The Southern Corn Rootworm is a beetle, so it belongs to the order Coleoptera. This contrasts with other orders: flies have one pair of wings (Diptera), butterflies and moths have scaled wings (Lepidoptera), and cockroaches and termites are in Blattodea with different body forms. So the correct order is Coleoptera.

**10. Which insect is in order Lepidoptera and is commonly referred to as a moth?**

- A. Viceroy Butterfly**
- B. Tiger Moth**
- C. Walking Stick**
- D. Velvet Ant**

Understanding what Lepidoptera includes helps distinguish moths from butterflies. Both groups have scaled wings, but moths form the larger, more general group within Lepidoptera that many species are commonly called moths. The tiger moth is a moth, placing it in Lepidoptera and identifying it with the moth group rather than the butterflies. The viceroy is a butterfly, also in Lepidoptera but not a moth. The walking stick isn't in Lepidoptera at all (it's a Phasmatodea), and the velvet ant is a wasp (Hymenoptera). So the tiger moth best fits the category of a moth within Lepidoptera.

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## Next Steps

**Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.**

**As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.**

**If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at [hello@examzify.com](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://missouriffaentomologycde.examzify.com>**

**We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!**

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