

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
HERITAGE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

Invertebrate Abstract

Element Code: IIORTB5010

Data Sensitivity: No

CLASSIFICATION, NOMENCLATURE, DESCRIPTION, RANGE

NAME: *Aztecacris gloriosus*
COMMON NAME: Atascosa Gem Grasshopper
SYNONYMS:
FAMILY: Acrididae

AUTHOR, PLACE OF PUBLICATION: Hebard, 1935.

TYPE LOCALITY:

TYPE SPECIMEN:

TAXONOMIC UNIQUENESS:

DESCRIPTION: For the family Acrididae (Short-horned Grasshoppers): They get their name from their short, horn-shaped antennae, which are usually less than half the length of the body. They are 0.5-3.25 inches (1.3-8.3 cm) long. These common grasshoppers have a 3-segmented tarsi and one flat, round hearing organ called tympana on each side of the first abdominal segment. The pronotum does not extend over the abdomen.

AIDS TO IDENTIFICATION:

ILLUSTRATIONS:

TOTAL RANGE: Arizona.

RANGE WITHIN ARIZONA: See "Total Range."

SPECIES BIOLOGY AND POPULATION TRENDS

BIOLOGY: This family of grasshoppers produces a low buzzing sound by rubbing the roughened surfaces of their hind wings against the fore wings. Many members of this family attack crop plants. Grasshoppers are active most exclusively in the daytime. This means that courtship and mating take place under conditions in which it is possible for the participants to view each other.

It is not surprising then, that courtship, where it exists, depends heavily on visual displays involving various parts of the body.

REPRODUCTION: For the family, females lay eggs in large masses below the surface of the ground. During laying, the eggs are covered in a layer of foam, which hardens as it dries, giving a degree of protection from desiccation, predators, and parasites.

FOOD HABITS: For the family, they are exclusively vegetarian.

HABITAT: According to NatureServe (2003), they are found in grassland-herbaceous areas. "Found over an area of not more than a mile in diameter from 5,500 to 6,200 feet..., where these slopes pitch steeply down..., in the thick low covering grass and a variety of plants."

ELEVATION: According to NatureServe (2003), elevation ranges from 5,500 to 6,200 feet (1678-1891 m).

PLANT COMMUNITY: Unknown.

POPULATION TRENDS: Unknown.

SPECIES PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT STATUS: None
STATE STATUS: None
OTHER STATUS: None

MANAGEMENT FACTORS:

PROTECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN:

SUGGESTED PROJECTS: Life history studies, population surveys, and range distribution studies need to be performed.

LAND MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP:

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION

REFERENCES:

Borror, D.J. & R.E. White. 1970. A Field Guide to Insects, America north of Mexico. Houghton Mifflin Company. Boston, Massachusetts. Pp. 78.

NatureServe. 2003. An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 1.8. Arlington, Virginia, USA: NatureServe. Available: <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>. (Accessed: March 16, 2004).

Preston-Mafham, R. & K. Preston-Mafham. 1993. The Encyclopedia of Land Invertebrate Behaviour. The MIT Press. Cambridge, Massachusetts. Pp. 48, 55, 137, 249.

MAJOR KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS:**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

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