

Discover the Fauna of Our Campus

Grasshopper

Order: Orthoptera (Straight-winged insects)

Family: Acrididae (True grasshoppers)

Genus: Chorthippus (Meadow grasshoppers)

Species: Field grasshopper (*Chorthippus brunneus*)



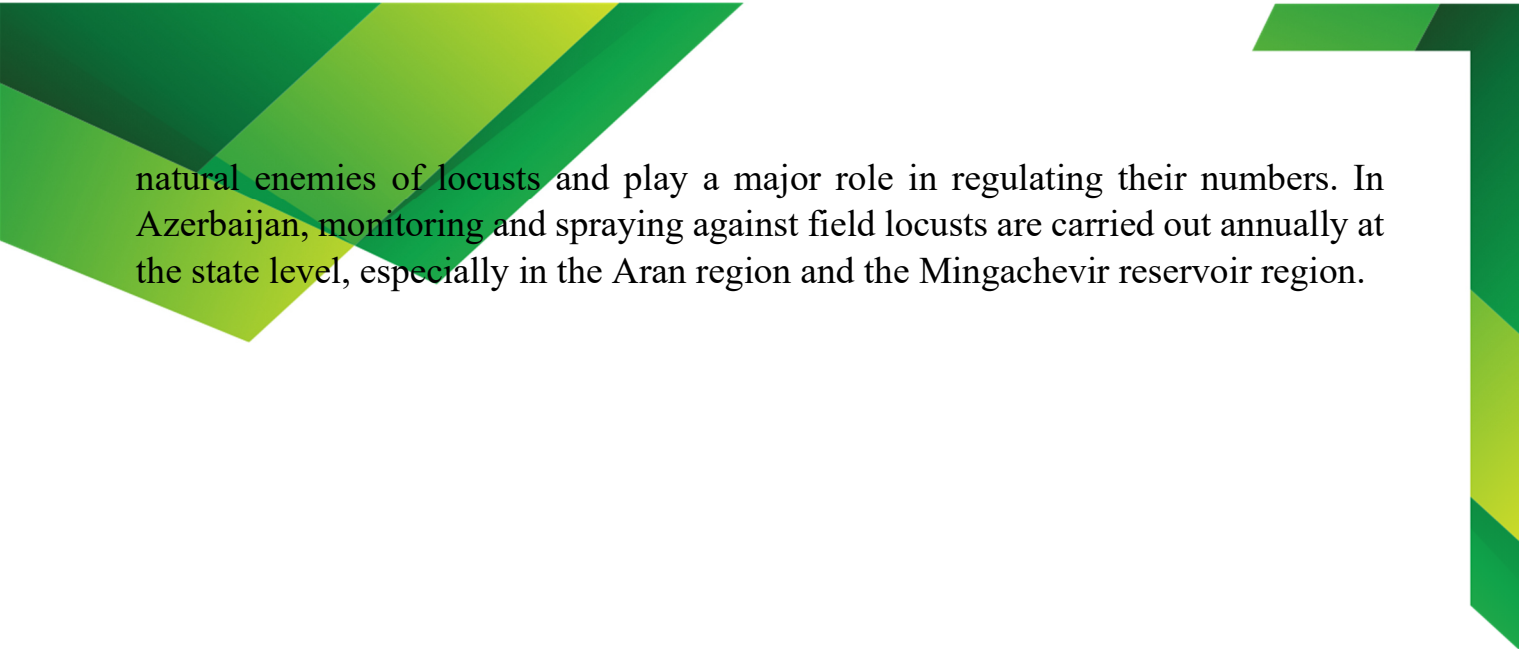
Grasshoppers (or sometimes simply grasshoppers) are insects of the order

Orthoptera, which can cause serious damage to agriculture. They are distinguished by the fact that they can live both individually and in flocks. The body of grasshoppers is usually green, brown or gray, which helps them to hide in the grass (camouflage).

They have specially developed muscular hind legs for jumping. They are voracious, easily tearing apart the leaves and stems of plants. They make a unique sound by rubbing their hind legs against their wings.

Grasshoppers develop through incomplete metamorphosis. Female grasshoppers lay their eggs in special capsules (tubes) under the soil. Although the larvae that hatch in the spring resemble adults, they do not have wings. After several molts, they turn into winged adults. Grasshoppers are polyphagous, meaning they feed on almost all types of plants.

They cause great damage to wheat, barley, corn, cotton and vegetable crops. Some species (for example, the Moroccan locust or the Asian locust) form large swarms when they multiply massively and destroy all the green cover in the places they pass. Locust control is carried out by both agrotechnical and chemical methods: By plowing the soil during the period of deep wintering, egg capsules can be brought to the surface and destroyed. During the period of mass emergence of larvae, insecticides (poisonous substances) are used. Birds (for example, starlings) are



natural enemies of locusts and play a major role in regulating their numbers. In Azerbaijan, monitoring and spraying against field locusts are carried out annually at the state level, especially in the Aran region and the Mingachevir reservoir region.

