



Beetles – Identification

A look at four different families of beetles.

← Family Silphidae - Carrion beetles

This family is associated with vertebrate carcasses; some species feed on the decaying stage of matter while others feed on the maggots living in the decaying matter.

↓ Family Cerambycidae – Longhorn beetles

This is a large family. Larvae are usually white grubs boring in dead or dying timber. This family includes Australia's largest beetle, 80mm *Batocera wallacei* found in the Cape York region.



← Family Scarabaeidae – Flower Beetles

The second largest family of beetles. Most larvae feed on decaying or fresh vegetation matter, often in the soil. Adults feed on nectar.

Family Carabidae – Ground beetles →
Another major family of beetles. Most are predacious as adult and larvae stage. Many ground species are flightless, having no wings with their elytra fused together.

