

BugLab Sorters Guide

To Critters to Include, but Not to Count



- 1) Small critters - Include small animals, but do not count small organisms that we are likely unable to identify to genus. In each photo the insect on the far right is an example of an animal not to count in the total 600 minimum organism count. If you are in doubt about whether or not to count a creature, ask a taxonomist or be safe and do not count it. A reference vial with examples of "small" animals will be provided to each sorter to help determine what "small" is.



- 2) Damaged critters - Include, but do not count detached heads, half bodies, or partially decomposed bodies of bugs, as shown in the image to the right.



- 3) Other rules - Include, but do not count:

- eggs
- exuvia
- aquatic insect pupa - most often Diptera, Trichoptera
- empty snail and clamshells
- brooding juveniles, typically leeches, crustaceans
- colonial taxa, e.g., hydra
- Collembola - springtails
- worms
- adult aquatic insects (excluding coleoptera & hemiptera)
- terrestrial insects
- zooplankton
- fish, amphibians