CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Vinegaroon

Mastigoproctus giganteus

The vinegaroon or whip scorpion (order Thelyphonida, and in North America the giant Mastigoproctus giganteus) looks like a nightmare and is close to harmless. It has no venom at all, and the long thr…

Quick facts

Classification: Invertebrate
Family: Thelyphonidae
Habitat: Arid deserts, scrublands, and forests
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 4-7 years
Weight: 15-30 grams
Scientific name: Mastigoproctus giganteus

Did you know?

- The acetic acid spray that gives the vinegaroon its name can be detected by humans from several feet away!
- The whip on its tail is not a sting; it is a sensory organ, and the animal has no venom whatsoever. It defends itself by spraying concentrated acetic…

What I learned

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