



Brood X Cicadas

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- Recently, Swarms of these insects have been spotted in a number of American states. These are part of a group named Brood X. The cicadas in Brood X number in billions and come out of their underground homes every 17 years. **Brood X started emerging in May and will be around until the end of June, specifically when ground temperatures reach about 17-18°C.**
- The term 'brood' refers to a population of cicadas that is isolated from other populations because of differences in their year of emergence or locality. **Brood X is the largest brood of 17-year cicadas and is found in Pennsylvania, northern Virginia, Indiana and eastern Tennessee.**
- Among periodical cicadas, there are seven species. There are also some annual cicadas, which come out every year. **Cicadas live underground for extended periods of time, typically 13 or 17 years.** Some periodical cicadas become adults about 17 years. When they come out, they shed their exoskeleton (outer skin) to take their winged form.
- Cicadas feed on roots of trees both underground and above it. Some cicadas will be eaten by frogs, fish, birds or raccoons. But they come out in such huge numbers that many will be able to mate and ensuring survival of their species. Male cicadas produce the loudest sounds in the insect world.

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