

**EVEN
MORE!**
Super!
Sized!

Giant Weta

The World's Biggest
Grasshopper



by Natalie Lunis

[Intentionally Left Blank]



Giant Weta

The World's Biggest Grasshopper

by Natalie Lunis

Consultant: Peter Smithers, Entomologist
School of Biomedical and Biological Sciences
University of Plymouth, England

BEARPORT
PUBLISHING

New York, New York

Credits

Cover, TOC, © Ingrid Visser/Minden Pictures/FLPA; 4–5, © Thierry Berrod/Mona Lisa Production/Science Photo Library; 6, © www.rodmorris.co.nz; 8, © Alan Greensmith/ardea.com; 9, © www.rodmorris.co.nz; 10, © Julian W/Shutterstock; 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, © www.rodmorris.co.nz; 21, © Ingrid Visser/Minden Pictures/FLPA; 22L, © Bruce Davidson/naturepl.com; 22C, © Nick Gordon/ardea.com; 22R, 23TL, © Andrew Burgess/Shutterstock; 23TR, © www.rodmorris.co.nz; 23BL, © Jitka Volfova/Shutterstock; 23BR, © Kiwi Mikex.

Publisher: Kenn Goin
Senior Editor: Joyce Tavolacci
Creative Director: Spencer Brinker
Photo Researcher: Calcium Creative

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Lunis, Natalie.

Giant weta : the world's biggest grasshopper / by Natalie Lunis.

pages ; cm. -- (Even more supersized!)

Audience: 6-9.

Includes bibliographical references and index.

ISBN 978-1-61772-731-3 (library binding) -- ISBN 1-61772-731-8 (library binding)

1. Giant wetas--Juvenile literature. 2. Grasshoppers--Juvenile literature. I. Title.

QL508.A56L86 2013

595.7'26--dc23

2012033777

Copyright © 2013 Bearport Publishing Company, Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in whole or in part, stored in any retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without written permission from the publisher.

For more information, write to Bearport Publishing Company, Inc., 45 West 21st Street, Suite 3B, New York, New York 10010. Printed in the United States of America.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1



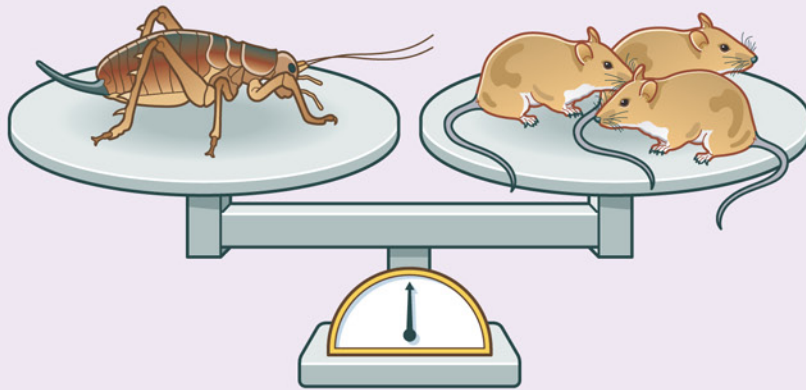


Contents

A Giant Grasshopper	4
Island Homes	6
Rat Attack	8
Hiding Out	10
Nighttime Meals	12
Moving Around	14
Hatching from Eggs	16
Getting Bigger	18
More to Learn	20
More Big Insects	22
Glossary	23
Index	24
Read More	24
Learn More Online	24

A Giant Grasshopper

The giant weta (WAYT-uh) is the world's biggest grasshopper.



This **insect** can weigh up to 2.5 ounces (71 g), or as much as three mice.



A giant weta can grow up to four inches (10 cm) long. That is about as long as a new crayon.

Island Homes

There are 11 kinds of giant wetas.

These big grasshoppers live on a few islands that are part of New Zealand.

The largest weta of all is the Little Barrier Island giant weta.


It is named for the small island on which it is found.

New Zealand is a country in the Pacific Ocean. It is made up of two large islands and many smaller islands.



Little Barrier Island Giant Wetas in the Wild



 Where Little Barrier Island giant wetas live

Index

babies 10, 16–17

defense 14

eggs 16–17, 22

exoskeleton 18–19

food 12–13

**giant burrowing
cockroach** 22

goliath beetle 22

homes 6–7, 10–11

length 5, 17, 22

**Little Barrier Island
giant weta** 6–7, 8

molting 18–19

Pacific rat 8

predators 8, 10

scientists 20

spikes 14–15

titan beetle 22

tuatara 10

weight 4, 14, 22

Read More

Goldish, Meish. *Leaping Grasshoppers (No Backbone! The World of Invertebrates)*. New York: Bearport (2008).

Markle, Sandra. *Insects (Biggest! Littlest!)*. Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills Press (2009).

Packard, Mary. *Goliath Beetle: One of the World's Heaviest Insects (SuperSized!)*. New York: Bearport (2007).

Learn More Online

To learn more about giant wetas, visit
bearportpublishing.com/EvenMoreSuperSized

[Intentionally Left Blank]



Giant Weta

The World's Biggest Grasshopper

Imagine a grasshopper that weighs as much as three mice and grows to be four inches (10 cm) long. The giant weta is so heavy that it can't jump like other grasshoppers. Instead, it walks or crawls to move around.

Look inside to learn more about where the world's biggest grasshopper lives, what it eats, and how it begins its life in a tiny egg.

Cane Toad

The World's Biggest Toad

English Mastiff

The World's Heaviest Dog

Flemish Giant Rabbit

The World's Biggest Bunny

Giant Pacific Octopus

The World's Largest Octopus

Giant Weta

The World's Biggest Grasshopper

King Cobra

The World's Longest Venomous Snake

Trumpeter Swan

The World's Largest Waterbird

Walking Sticks

The World's Longest Insects

BEARPORT
PUBLISHING

www.bearportpublishing.com

ISBN-13: 978-1-61772-731-3



9 781617 727313