

各種幼蟲兇猛程度

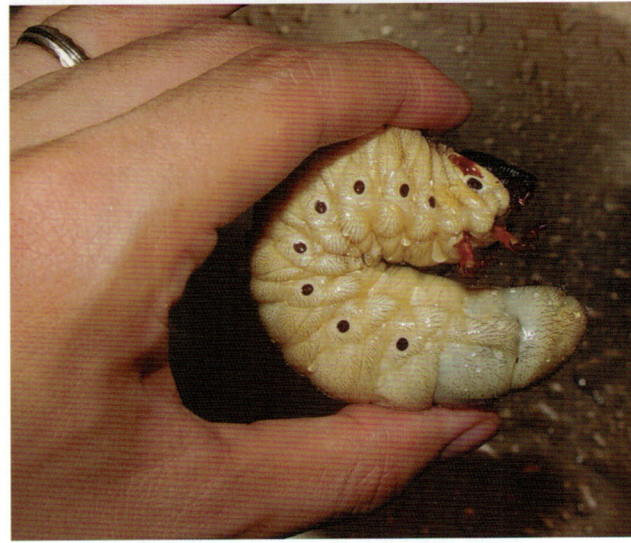
Viciousness of Larvae

雖然兜蟲、鍬形蟲，和花金龜各自的幼蟲都長得頗為相似，但每一種可都有自己獨特的兇猛度。我們先從兜蟲談起。在我養過的兜蟲幼蟲中，再也沒有比南洋大兜蟲被騷擾時更兇猛的。這屬的幼蟲只要一從飼養容器中取出便不停地要咬人。若捉拿時，手指放在其腹部，牠們更會毫不猶豫地用力往手指處咬去。一旦手指頭被三齡幼蟲的大顎咬中是不可能不流血的！就算是手指及時拿開，有時幼蟲也會因為沒咬到手指而咬中自己的側腹部。被自己大顎咬傷的幼蟲一開始會流出大量的透明血液，但大約5分鐘後會止血，可是之後傷口處會

Although the larvae of rhinoceros, stag, and flower beetles look alike in their own category, each species has its own temperament. For rhinoceros beetles, I have never seen larvae more vicious than those of *Chalcosoma* when taken out of their rearing containers. If you touch the side of their abdomen, they will attack without any hesitation. If bitten by their powerful jaws, it is hard not to bleed. Even if you move your finger in time, larvae sometimes end up biting themselves. When a larva is punctured by its own mandibles it bleeds profusely in the beginning, but then clogging occurs about five minutes later. However, larval



↑生氣的兜蟲幼蟲。三齡波特萊豎角兜。2007
Angry rhinoceros beetle larva. *Golofa porteri*



↘建議的幼蟲拿取方式。三齡長戟大兜蟲。2007
Recommended way to handle larvae. *D. h. lichyi*



有黑色硬塊。避免幼蟲咬到牠自己的方法很簡單：抓法要正確。捉拿時大姆指放在幼蟲的外腹部、食指和中指放在頭部後方的背部，將幼蟲呈「C」狀輕輕拿起。以上的捉拿方法可以確保自己手指和幼蟲的安全。獨角仙是最溫馴的種類之一。除了主動把手指伸入其大顎以外，我從未遇過會咬人的獨角仙幼蟲。有些個體甚至把手指伸入其大顎騷動都還是不會咬人。其他種類的幼蟲兇猛程度介於獨角仙和南洋大兜蟲之間

至於鍬形蟲的幼蟲，我從沒有養過特別會往手指處咬去的種類。除非是把手指放入其大顎，或是幼蟲蠕動時大顎湊巧碰到手指，否則這一類的幼蟲很少會咬到人。不過由於鍬形蟲幼蟲的大顎比兜蟲的更鋒利，因此抓拿時也是不能大意的。其實捉拿鍬形蟲的幼蟲時，最需要擔心的反而是幼蟲咬到自己。鍬形蟲幼蟲的大顎相當敏感，我覺得很像捕鼠夾。有東西碰到兜蟲幼蟲的大顎時，它還不一定會合起來。但是只要有任何東西碰到鍬形蟲幼蟲的大顎，哪怕是一根寒毛，它都會迅速地盡全力合起。鍬形蟲幼蟲被挖出來以後，不管是放在地面還是湯匙上還是磅秤上，都喜歡呈C狀蠕動，這個時候如果腹部碰到大顎就很危險，飼育者很可能會聽到ㄅ一ㄚ一聲，然後就爆出一堆透明的體液。在這一方面兜蟲幼蟲就比較不用擔心，牠如果在蠕動的過程中，大顎碰到自己的腹部，牠只會先咬一半，當發現是自己的身體時便會放開（不過我還是見過把自己咬破的姬兜幼蟲）。但是鍬形蟲就只

skin does not regenerate like ours, so a permanent scab is formed until the next molt. The best way to hold a larva is to have your thumb on the dorsal side of the abdomen, your middle and index fingers on the dorsal side of the thorax, and pick up the larva in its curled “C” position. This protects both the hobbyist and larva. *Allomyrina dichotoma* larvae are among the most docile. The rest of rhinoceros beetle larvae have a temperament somewhere between *Chalcosoma* and *A. dichotoma*.

As for stag beetles, I have never seen a species that lunges at fingers when handled. They bite only if the hobbyist sticks a finger into their mandibles or they accidentally come across one. However, because the jaws of stag beetle larvae are much sharper than those of rhinoceros or flower beetle larvae, their larvae should be handled with caution. Interestingly, when handling a stag beetle larva, what the hobbyist most needs to look out for is the larva biting itself. Stag beetle larvae have extremely sensitive mandibles. They are very much like a mousetrap. The moment anything touches them, even a strand of hair, they shut with full force. Once dug out, stag beetle larvae tend to curl into a “C” shape. If the abdomen comes in touch with the mandibles, disaster will happen. What follows is hemolymph oozing out the larva’s abdomen. Rhinoceros beetle larvae seem much more intelligent in this respect. When their abdomen comes in touch with their mandibles, they only bite half way through. When they realize what’s in their mandibles they let go (however, I have seen a case of a *Xylotrupes gideon* puncturing



會一味地先咬到底再說。把自己咬破以後會不會死亡就要看傷口的大小了。但可以肯定的是，如果咬破自己的是大型個體，之後牠一定會失重，然後以比較小型的個體羽化。針對鍬形蟲幼蟲這個令人搖頭的習性，我的應對方式是幼蟲挖出來以後立刻用一堆木屑把牠蓋住，這樣牠就不會自殘了。但是蓋的時候一定要一口氣蓋，千萬不要慢慢灑，否則幼蟲可能會咬木屑而咬到自己。如果要量幼蟲體重的話，可以先秤出木屑的重量。不過也請大家不要太緊張，幼蟲並不是每一次都會咬到自己。我們只要稍加留意即可。

除了有些南洋大兜蟲幼蟲的個體偶爾會躺著爬以外，兜蟲和鍬形蟲的幼蟲均正著爬或側著爬。但花金龜的幼蟲幾乎都是躺著爬。一般而言，只要觸摸正在躺著爬的幼蟲的腹部，牠們都會狠狠地咬向觸摸處。但由於花金龜的頭殼都不是很大，因此其大顎對手指的殺傷力也不是很大。唯一的特例是大王花金龜的幼蟲。此屬擁有花金龜幼蟲中最大型的大顎。雖然此屬的幼蟲沒有被充分干擾不會咬人，但一旦咬人其速度以及大顎的力量都相當驚人。捉拿***Goliathus***屬的幼蟲時應特別留意。

不管一隻幼蟲兇不兇猛，捉拿時都一定要細心對待，絕對不要心想一隻幼蟲不會咬人而隨便粗魯地亂抓。遭到隨便亂抓的幼蟲很容易因為受到驚嚇而排出大量稀釋的糞便，然後失重，要經過幾天後才可補回重量。用手捉拿幼蟲時

itself). But stag beetle larvae bite all the way through first. Whether or not a larva dies after its abdomen is slashed depends on how bad the cut is. What's for certain is, if it's a full-grown third instar larva, it will eclose to become a smaller adult. My method to counter this trait of stag beetle is covering the larva with substrate once dug out. But when covering it with substrate, do it quickly. Slowly sprinkling it with substrate will entice it to attack the substrate and it could accidentally bite itself.



▲鍬形蟲幼蟲擁有極為鋒利的大顎。2006

Stag beetle larvae have exceptionally sharp mandibles.

Other than a few *Chalcosoma* individuals that crawl on their dorsal side, rhinoceros and stag beetle larvae crawl on their ventral side. However, all flower beetle larvae crawl on their dorsal side. Normally speaking, if you touch a flower beetle larva on the ventral side when it crawls, it will curl back to attack your finger. But since most flower beetle larvae are not very large in size, their



也不能太久，否則幼蟲體溫上升過多也會開始大量排便。

幼蟲對震動相當敏感。也因此我建議換土時不要用挖的。一旦湯匙挖進去以後，幼蟲便會開是亂竄。當湯匙快要挖到幼蟲時，幼蟲便會轉身，隨時狠狠地向湯匙咬去。如果咬中了，幼蟲的大顎可能會缺角斷掉，如果沒咬中湯匙，可能會咬到自己。個人覺得這種險不要冒，直接將幼蟲倒出來還是最安全的做法。而用湯匙將幼蟲撈起時，也要一氣合成，不要有「刮一下、刮一下」的動作，否則幼蟲會攻擊湯匙。此外，將幼蟲撈起來以後，手不要發抖，否則幼蟲也會攻擊湯匙。



← 61公克的巴拉望巨扁鍬形蟲幼蟲。2008
61-gram *Dorcus titanus palawanicus* larva.

mandibles are not much of a hazard to the finger. *Goliathus* larvae are the only exceptions. Although their larvae normally do not attack, they can bite hard if agitated. Because these larvae are much bigger than the average flower beetle larvae, they need to be handled with caution.

Handle all larvae with care, whether they bite or not. If a larva is frightened by rough handling, it will pass large amounts of excrement and lose weight, which takes days to regain. Also, never hold a larva for more than a few minutes or rising temperature too will cause it to pass large amounts of excrement.

Larvae are extremely sensitive to vibration. When doing a substrate change, digging is not the preferred method to take the larva out. Once a spoon goes into the substrate, the larva starts to panic. When the spoon gets close to the larva, it will turn around and attack the spoon. If the larva gets a good grip of the spoon, its mandibles could chip. It could even end up biting itself. The preferred method is to dump the entire content out. When scooping a larva up with a spoon, make sure it is done in one motion. Do not do it in succession, or the larva may attack the spoon. Also, try to keep your hand steady once the larva is scooped up. If your hand trembles, the larva may also attack the spoon.