

Desert Millipede

Orthoporus ornatus





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Range: North America (Sonoran Desert, New Mexico, Arizona, Texas)

Habitat: Southwest desert (Under logs, leaves, cactus)

Diet: Decaying organic plant matter

Ecological Role: decomposer

Lifespan: 10 years

Desert Millipede **Fun Facts!** *Orthoporus ornatus*



When threatened, they can secrete a toxic substance that will irritate the eyes and skin!



The millipede lays its eggs in its underground burrows and then leaves them without further care!



They can be many different colors depending on which desert they are native to!



During the summer and fall months, they are dormant and remain underground!