Salahaddin University

College of Agriculture

Department Plant Protection

Insect Structure – Practical

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Prepared by:

Hozan Qadir – Lectuer

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**Mouthparts**

**Types of Mouthparts**

**What are the different parts of M.P.?**

Basic types of M.P.:

- Chewing - Sponging

- Piercing-sucking - Sucking or Siphoning

- Rasping-sucking - Chewing-lapping

Important for insect identification

Provides information on **feeding habits** and **types of damage**.

**\* Typical Chewing Mouthpart grasshopper consists of these parts:**

1- Labrum
2- Mandible (1 pair)
3- Hypopharynx
4- Maxilla (1 pair)
5- Labium

**What are the different parts of M.P.?**

**1- Labrum** - a cover which may be loosely referred to as the upper lip.

**2- Mandibles** - hard, powerful cutting jaws.

**3- Maxillae** - 'pincers' which are less powerful than the mandibles. They are used to steady and manipulate the food. They have a five segments palps which is sensory and often concerned with taste.

 **4- Labium** - the lower cover, often referred to as the lower lip. They have a three segmented palp which is also sensory.

**5- Hypopharynx** - a tongue-like structure in the floor of the mouth. The salivary glands discharge saliva through it.









**Types of Mouthparts**

**1- Chewing or Biting Type**

- The Grasshopper has “generalized” mouthparts. This insect is omnivorous and its mouthparts are well suited to chewing on a wide variety of food items.

 - Simplest type.

- Used to chew holes in leaves and bore in stems.

**Examples:** Grasshoppers, Crickets, Caterpillars, Beetles.

**2- Sponging Type**

 Modified for liquids or solid foods

- Solid foods must be dissolved by salivary secretions

 Example: House fly



**3- Chewing-Lapping Type**

**-** Modified to use liquid or semi-liquid foods

-Some mouthpart components function for chewing

* mold wax
* grasping prey
* cutting flowers

-Other components form the proboscis “ lapping” surface.

**Example:** Honey bee



**4- Sucking or Siphoning Type**

Mouthparts form a sucking tube (proboscis)

- modified for uptake of nectar/liquids

 Coiled beneath head when not in use

 Examples: Butterflies and Moths



**5- Piercing-Sucking Type**

**-** Common and important type

- Greatly modified for puncturing plants and animals.

- Mouthpart components form needle-like style.

- Capable of transmitting viruses.

- Toxic saliva

Examples: Mosquitoes, Stink bugs, etc.

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**6- Rasping-Sucking Type**

-Combination of chewing and piercing-sucking.

- Rasp surfaces of leave, suck up sap.

Example: Thrips

