Key to the common Orthopteroid insects and Principal families of Orthoptera occurring in Florida

1. Front tibiae dilated apically, with several large dactyls (teeth) modified for digging. Body size >20mm. (Fig. 1, mole crickets) ................... Gryllotalpidae
   — Front tibiae not greatly dilated apically. Size variable ......................................................... 2

2. Front and middle tarsi 2-segmented. Hind tarsi 1-segmented or absent. Size very small, <10mm (pigmy mole crickets) ....................... Tridactylidae
   — Front and middle tarsi usually 3 or more segmented. If front and middle tarsi 2-segmented, hind tarsi 3 segmented. Size variable ................................ 3.

3. Hind femora greatly enlarged and fitted for jumping (Fig. 2); ovipositor exserted; all tarsi with less than 5 segments ........................................ 4
   — Hind femora not greatly enlarged for jumping; not much larger than other femora; ovipositor concealed; tarsi with 5 tarsomeres ................... 9

4. Antennae much shorter than body; tarsi 2-3 segmented; ovipositor short and composed of 2 pairs of short, horny, diverging plates ............... 5
   — Antennae as long as or longer than the body; tarsi 3-4 segmented; ovipositor elongate and either sword-shaped or cylindrical ................................. 6

5. Pronotum greatly elongated, projecting backwards over the abdomen (Fig. 3) ............... Tettigidae
   — Pronotum never extending over the abdomen (grasshoppers) ............................................. Acrididae

6. At least middle tarsi, and usually all tarsi 4-segmented; ovipositor sword-shaped, compressed ........ 7
   — All tarsi 3-segmented; ovipositor cylindrical (crickets) (Fig. 2) ........................................ Gryllidae

7. Wings usually absent; front tibiae with or without tympana; (cave and camel crickets) .............. 8
   — Wings present but may be reduced in size; front tibiae with tympana (Fig. 4) ....................... Tettigoniidae

8. Antennae contiguous at base or nearly so (Fig. 5) .... ......................................................... Rhaphidophoridae
   — Antennae separated at base by distance equal to or greater than length of first antennal segment ... .................................................. Gryllacrididae

9. Body long and slender; head exserted and free; legs slender, more or less cylindrical, fitted for walking (the following 3 orders no longer included in Orthoptera) .................................................................. 10
   — Body short, oval, depressed; head almost concealed beneath the pronotum; coxae of legs depressed and legs compressed or flattened (Fig. 6., cockroaches); ........................................... Blattodea

Fig. 1. Modified front legs of mole cricket (Orthoptera: Gryllotalpidae) illustrating dactyls. Photo J. Castner.

Fig. 2. Gryllus sp. male (upper) and female (lower) showing femora modified for jumping. Photos P. M. Choate.

Fig. 3. Tettigidae. Photo - Giff Beaton
10. Front pair of legs fitted for grasping; cerci jointed (Fig. 7)............................. Mantodea
— Front pairs of legs not fitted for grasping; cerci not jointed (Fig. 8) (walkingsticks)..... Phasmatodea

Fig. 4. Tettigoniidae. Photo P. M. Choate

Fig. 5. Rhaphidophoridae - Camelcricket. Photo by Giff Beaton

Fig. 6. Blattodea - Asian cockroach at light. Photo P. M. Choate

Fig. 7. Mantodea - Mantidae. Photo P. M. Choate

Fig. 8. Phasmatodea - Pseudophasmatidae - *Anisomorpha buprestoides* Stoll. Photo P. M. Choate.