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Invertebrate of the Month September - October 2008



Pselaphid Beetles

Tiny and curious beetles in the family Pselaphidae (pronounced selaf-idi) range in size from 0.8 - 4.0mm. They are found in leaf litter, rotten logs, under bark, moss, caves and animal nests. Their feeding preferences range from fungi to predation of minute animals including spring-tails (collembolans). But due to their small size very little is known about their biology. The above pictures are dorsal and ventral, or side views of four species sampled from plots near Peaceful Bay WA over the last two years.

