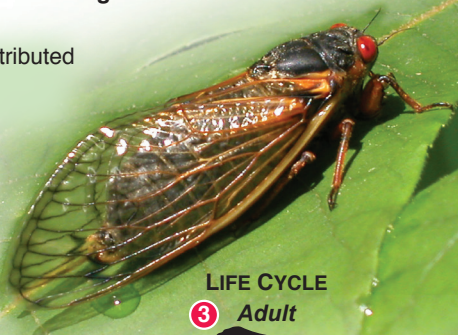


# U.S. braces for mass arrival of cicadas

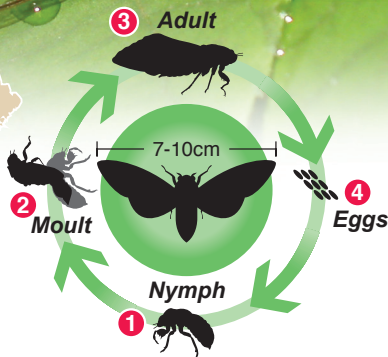
Trillions of cicadas are set to emerge, after 17 years underground, across large parts of the eastern United States, bringing their distinctive, high-volume mating calls to towns and cities

## BROOD X CICADAS

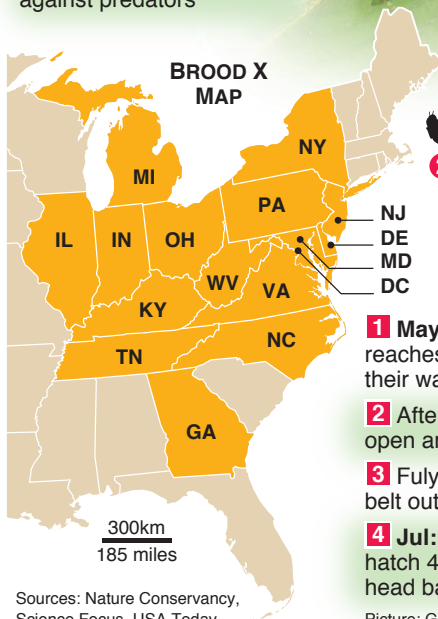
- Largest and most broadly distributed of all 15 broods of periodical cicadas in U.S.
- Cicadas do not bite but emit sounds from 80 to 100 decibels – equivalent to low-flying aeroplane or lawnmower
- It is thought that huge, synchronised arrival provides protection against predators



## LIFE CYCLE



## BROOD X MAP



- 1 May-Jun:** As soil temperature reaches around 17C, nymphs burrow their way up from below ground
- 2** After final moult, nymph's skin splits open and cicada emerges
- 3** Fully mature cicadas mate – males belt out distinctive call to attract females
- 4 Jul:** Females lay eggs in trees which hatch 4 to 6 weeks later – offspring head back underground until 2038