

Endangered Insects: American Burying Beetle

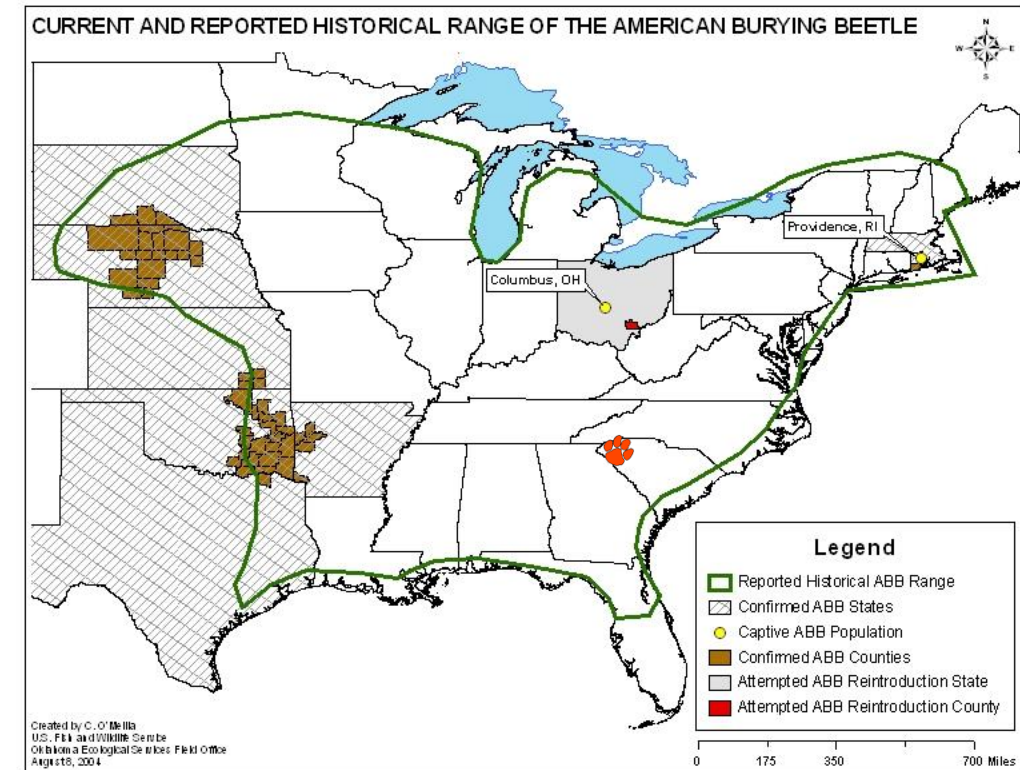
The American Burying Beetle (*Nicrophorus americanus* (Olivier)) is a federally endangered species that once occurred throughout the eastern US, including South Carolina.

During the 1920's—1940's the species disappeared from most of its former range. There are lots of ideas, but no one knows why...

American Burying Beetle exhibits parental care:

- Male and female pairs fight other pairs to claim a carcass (grouse, pheasant, etc.) to feed to their young;
- They bury the carcass, remove fur or feathers, and coat it with an antibacterial goo;
- Parents work together to feed and tend to their young until they pupate.

Only one specimen, a male, is known from South Carolina.



Florence, S. C.
16 July 1935
O.L. Cartwright

Trap light

