



Habitat

Bess beetles need a habitat that is large enough to fit their rotting wood inside. Terrariums or large critter keepers with a mesh lid are great options!



Decaying Wood

Bess beetles need decaying wood for food and shelter! If finding bess beetles in the wild, collect the wood you find them in and surrounding chewed wood/frass for the enclosure. Add additional decaying wood as the bess beetles eat through the original logs.



Substrate

Add a few inches of soil, decaying leaves, peat moss, or sphagnum moss at the bottom of the enclosure for burrowing.

Bess Beetle Care Sheet

Bess beetles make great education animals because of their low-maintenance, large size, & docile behavior



Humidity

Bess beetles like moist wood, but not soaking wet. Mist your habitat with water about once a day. Let chlorinated tap water sit for 48 hours prior to misting for chlorine to dissipate.



Light

Keep the habitat at room temperature and away from direct light. Bess beetles prefer dark areas.



Ongoing Care

Do not clean out your bess beetle habitat; bess beetles need to eat their own frass in order to digest wood! Just add more decaying wood from hardwood trees (oak, maple, hickory, elm) when needed. Keep wood and soil moist but not soggy!