### Examples of Coleoptera

**Early Stage Decomposition**
- **Carrion Beetles (Silphidae)**
  - Adults & larvae feed on fly larvae

**Early to Late Stage Decomposition**
- **Rove Beetles (Staphylinidae)**
  - Predator of fly eggs
- **Clown Beetles (Histeridae)**
  - Predator of fly eggs

**Late Stage Decomposition**
- **Ham & Checkered Beetles (Cleridae)**
  - Predator of flies & beetles; also feed on dead tissue
- **Hide Beetles (Scarabidae)**
  - Usually the last to arrive
- **Skin Beetles (Dermestidae)**
  - Feed on dried skin & tissues

### Examples of Diptera

**Early Stage Decomposition**
- **Life Cycle of a Calliphoridae Fly**
  - Metallic thorax and abdomen
- **Blow & Greenbottle Flies (Calliphoridae)**
- **Flesh Fly (Sarcophagidae)**
  - Striped thorax

**Late Stage Decomposition**
- **House Fly (Muscidae)**
- **Cheese Skipper (Piophilidae)**
Most important factor in corpse decay:

*  
*  
*  

5 Stages of Decomposition

STAGE 1: Fresh/Initial Decay

   Inside:  
   
   Outside:  

STAGE 2: Bloat/Putrefaction

   Inside:  
   
   Outside:  

STAGE 3: Decay/Black Putrefaction

   Inside:  
   
   Outside:  

STAGE 4: Post Decay

   Inside:  
   
   Outside:  

STAGE 5: Dry/Skeletal

   Inside:  
   
   Outside:  

FORENSIC ENTOMOLOGY