

100,000 billion cicadas came to life at the same time in the US after a total solar eclipse

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On April 8, a total solar eclipse will be visible in many parts of the world. After a total solar eclipse, up to 100 trillion cicadas are expected to emerge from hibernation in the US, creating a rare sight.



Periodic cicadas (*Magicicada*) are one of the insects with the longest life cycles in nature. This species is divided into 2 main groups including:

Brood Group XIX, or Great Southern Brood, which appeared after 13 years, is the largest colony of periodical cicadas, stretching across the Southeast United States. Group 2 is Brood Northern Illinois, or Brood XIII, which appears every 17 years.

As expected, cicadas will begin to appear at the end of April. They will use their front legs to dig burrows and emerge from the ground. They will then look for a safe place to complete their maturation process, give birth to the next generation, and die.

These two groups of cicadas will "wake up" at the same time, a rare event called dual emergence. According to experts, the last time this coincidence happened was since 1803, when Thomas Jefferson was president of the United States.

According to records of previous events in history, when cicadas appeared, they would cover the fields and houses along the way. The noise they make is equivalent to that of a jet engine.

It is estimated that the number of Brood XIX and Brood XIII cicadas appearing at the same time this year could reach hundreds of trillions - or even million billions.

Each cicada is about 2.5 cm long. With only 1,000 billion cicadas, they have traveled more than 25.3 million km if placed one after another, 33 times the distance from the Moon to Earth.

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