Iowa Range
statewide

Bibliography
Iowa Department of Natural Resources. 2001.
Biodiversity of Iowa: Aquatic Habitats CD-ROM.

freshwater shrimp
representative species

Kingdom:	Animalia
Division/Phylum:	Arthropoda
Class:	Malacostraca
Order:	Decapoda

Features
Freshwater shrimp have five pairs of legs, the first two pairs with grasping claws. Their abdomen is flattened from side to side. The internal organs are easily seen. They reach slightly over two inches long.

Natural History
Female freshwater shrimp carry their orange eggs under their abdomen between April and August. Females lay 80 to 90 eggs. The eggs hatch and the free-swimming larvae undergo rapid development for three weeks. Adults disappear in late summer to early fall. Their life span ranges from one to two years. They eat plants and animals, both living and dead.

Habitats
Mississippi River; Missouri River; interior rivers and streams

Iowa Status
common; native