

This worm-like creature's long body ends in fleshy tendrils, uncoiling like bloated serpents tipped in barbed spines, surrounding a pink, bile-stinking orifice lined with rows of inward tilted fangs.

BILECRAWLER - CR 3

XP 800

N Large magical beast (wyrm)

Init +0; Senses darkvision 60 ft, low-light vision, tremorsense 60 ft.; Perception +7

DEFENSE

AC 18, touch 9, flat-footed 18 (-1 size, +9 natural) hp 25 (3d10+9)

Fort +6, Ref +3, Will +2

OFFENSE

Speed 30 ft., burrow 20 ft. Space 10 ft.; Reach 5 ft.

Melee bite +7 (2d6+7 plus 1d4 acid plus grab)

Special Attacks spew bile (30-ft. line, once every 2d4 rounds, 4d4 acid damage, Reflex DC 13 for half)

STATISTICS

Str 21, Dex 10, Con 17, Int 2, Wis 13, Cha 6 Base Atk +3; CMB +9 (+13 grapple); CMD 19 (can't be tripped)

Feats Acrobatic, Alertness

Skills Acrobatics +6, Perception +7; Sense Motive +3;

Racial Modifiers +4 Perception

SQ narrow build

ECOLOGY

Environment Underground Organization Solitary or bed (2-4)

Treasure None

SPECIAL ABILITIES

Narrow Build (Ex): A bilecrawler's long narrow physique is such that it can navigate areas that would ordinarily be too small for a creature of its size category without suffering any of the penalties associated with becoming squeezed. Bilecrawlers are treated as being one size category smaller for purposes of moving around corners or through tight enclosures. A bilecrawler cannot choose to squeeze past an enemy.

Spew Bile (Ex): A bilecrawler's stomach acids are perilously caustic. Once every 2d4 rounds it can belch forth a 30-ft. line of putrid yellow bile to soak its prey in (4d4 points of acid damage, Reflex DC 13 for half). The save DC is Constitution-based.

The bilecrawler (also known as a bile wyrm for the gastrula stink it gives off) makes its lair in caves and dungeons, often burrowing into such places in search of water or prey. This wyrm is the bane of most subterranean humanoid races, being clever enough to tunnel around

heavily defended guard positions and into living spaces and sleeping areas to feast upon the surprised inhabitants (most of whom are usually non-combatants). Many underground races have a number of folk tales regarding these monsters, most involve the wyrms having a taste for particularly unruly children. Real bilecrawlers don't particularly care whether their meal has been naughty or nice.

Bilecrawler's appear much like stout segmented earthworms or slugs bred to enormous size. Their only facial features are a gaping oral cavity rung round with a collection of flexible barbed spines and a pair of forwardpointed, lidded eyes mounted to either side of its mouth. Their coloration ranges from dull pink and gray to dark brown or glossy black. Typical specimens grow to about 13 feet long and weigh around 900 pounds.

A bilecrawler burrows using the bony spines mounted on its front end, and its acidic digestive juices. It absorbs nourishment from the organic matter and mineral nutrients found in the soil eating as it burrows. However a bilecrawler's diet requires it to eat copious amounts of protein as well, which the creature acquires by preying on other subterranean creatures - notably humanoids like dwarves, goblins, and drow. A burrowing bilecrawler usually does not make a usable tunnel, but it can construct a tunnel at need or at the command of another. To do so it must burrow at half speed. This species of wyrm often digs winding tunnels abutting dungeon corridors, natural caves and mine shafts, so as to be closer to its prey. Typical tunnels are 5 feet tall and wide, and from 60 to 150 feet long ($[1d10 + 5] \times 10$).

The fleshy antenna, mounted above the bilecrawler's mouth, and banded chitin shell act as a motion detector, picking up minute surface vibrations when the creature is in contact with the earth. Vibrations caused by passing prey are picked up by the creature's armor and transferred up to its antenna via vibratory resonance. The wyrm can manage the same effect by touching or burying its antenna in the ground.

A bilecrawler usually lies 5 to 10 feet below the surface until its antennae detects the approach of prey. It then burrows up to attack. (Treat this as a charge, even though the bilecrawler does not need to move 10 feet before attacking.) The creature usually only fights long enough to acquire a meal, grabbing a victim and then dragging them back down its tunnel. The more frustrated a bilecrawler becomes, the more likely it is to spit a gout of bile.

Pods of bilecrawlers share the same territory but do not cooperate, with one another unless directed to by a trainer. The wyrmlords often use bilecrawlers as scouts, and sappers, when launching an invasion of against their subterranean neighbors. Likewise they use the beasts to construct new lairs. Bilecrawlers make for excellent terror weapons considering their predilections concerning food.

VILECRAWLER - CR 5

XP 1,600

N Large magical beast (wyrm)

Init +7; **Senses** darkvision 60 ft, low-light vision, tremorsense 60 ft.; Perception +8

DEFENSE

AC 22, touch 12, flat-footed 19 (+3 Dex, -1 size, +10 natural)

hp 69 (6d10+30)

Fort +10, Ref +8, Will +4

OFFENSE

Speed 30 ft., burrow 20 ft.

Space 10 ft.; Reach 5 ft.

Melee bite +12 (2d6+10 plus 1d4 acid plus grab)

Special Attacks spew bile (30-ft. line, once every 1d4 rounds, 6d4 acid damage, Reflex DC 18 for half)



Str 25, Dex 16, Con 20, Int 2, Wis 14, Cha 4

Base Atk +6; CMB +14 (+18 grapple); CMD 24 (can't be tripped)

Feats Acrobatic, Alertness, Improved Initiative

Skills Acrobatics +12, Perception +8; Sense Motive +4; **Racial Modifiers** +4 Perception

SQ narrow build

ECOLOGY

Environment Underground **Organization** Solitary or bed (2–4) **Treasure** None

Vilecrawlers, appear much like the more common variety, but are a more confident breed less likely to leave a fight until all its targeted prey have fled or been incapacitated. Rarely are they found untended in the "wild." Almost all have been specifically bred and trained to be instruments of war by the vermen, and rarely stray far from their owners' sides.

The selective breeding process has, in addition to making them heartier, also augmented the acidity of the vilecrawler's stomach bile. The acid of these augmented

wyrms is so strong that older vilecrawlers often suffer near constant pain from ulcers along their digestive tract. The result is that paragon bilecrawlers must void their bile more often and are therefore much freer using their acidic spittle in enemies. Some scholars theorize that the constant burning of their bile is the source of much of this wyrm's aggression.

Bred to be larger and more aggressive than their fellows by the vermen, vilecrawlers are less likely to retreat with one measly morsel caught in their barbed mouth spines, and are more likely to try and bring down as much prey as possible. After a successful hunt the vilecrawler removes the bodies of its prey back to their tunnels to dine on in peace. Only if the wyrm is severely injured does it break off combat dragging whatever edibles it can with it.



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