BED BUG

Cimex lectularius

ALIASES:
REDCOATS, WALL LOUSE, ETC.

The common bed bug has been feeding upon the blood of humans since the beginning of recorded history. Although largely eradicated in the United States following World War II, bed bugs have experienced a dramatic resurgence in the past decade, creating a market opportunity – as well as a significant pest challenge – for PMPs in all 50 states.
To assist the industry in its ongoing battle against this ubiquitous pest, MGK – manufacturer of Bedlam®, Bedlam Plus and CrossFire®– is pleased to present the following poster on the biology, habits and life cycle of the common bed bug.

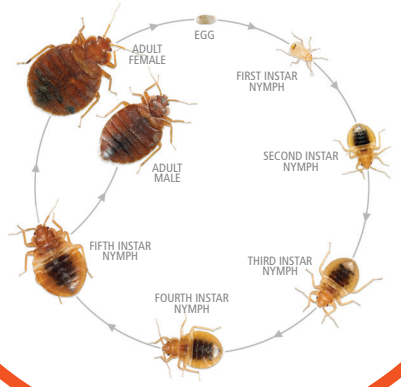
3/16 INCH
[5 mm]
ACTUAL SIZE

DESCRIPTION

These relatively small insects are approximately 3/16-inch long (5 mm) and 1/8-inch wide. They are broadly oval, flat, brown to reddish-brown true bugs with a 3-segmented beak, 4-segmented antennae and vestigial wings. Bed bugs have very thin, vertically flattened bodies covered with short, golden-colored hairs.

LIFE CYCLE

of Cimex lectularius
[common bed bug]

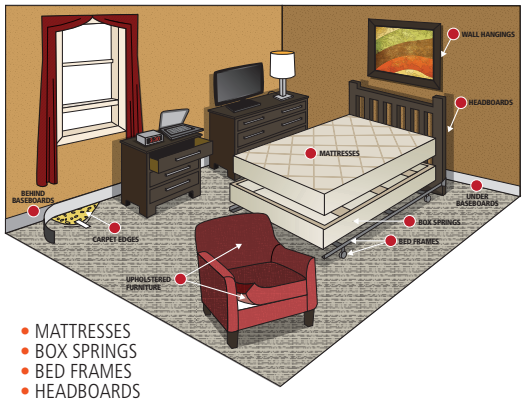


Source: Stephen Doggett

FACT ▶

During the early stages of an infestation, bed bugs tend to be located in very close association to beds and/or upholstered furniture. As populations increase in age and size, however, the likelihood of finding bed bugs in unpredictable areas away from the host-feeding sites also increases.

BED BUG HOT SPOTS



- MATTRESSES
- BOX SPRINGS
- BED FRAMES
- HEADBOARDS
- UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE
- DESK CHAIRS
- CARPET EDGES
- WALL HANGINGS
- UNDER AND BEHIND BASEBOARDS

KEY SIGNS

OF INFESTATION

EARLY DETECTION OF BED BUGS IS CRITICAL WHEN PERFORMING AN INSPECTION. COMMON SIGNS OF INFESTATION INCLUDE:

- SHED OR CAST SKINS
- FECAL DEPOSITS (DRIED EXCRETED BLOOD)
- BED BUG CARCASSES
- EGG DEPOSITS
- LIVE BUGS

When disturbed, they give off a distinctive "musty sweet" odor from the scent glands located near their hind coxae.