



Allpest Pest Awareness

Keeping you informed

Our Pest Awareness Series offer informative, easy to understand information on a range of problem pests.

We aim to keep you in control and as well as maintain a safe and healthier environment for your immediate surroundings.

Our Pest Awareness Sheets present facts such as:

- Overview
- Ecology and Habit
- Breeding Cycle
- Health Risk

For more range on the series, please visit our website www.allpest.com.au or call us at 08 9416 0200





American Cockroaches (*Periplaneta Americana*)

Overview

The American cockroaches are insects belonging to the Order Blattodea, representing a primitive and highly productive group of insects whose origin extend back to at least 300 million years. The American cockroach is the largest cockroach that infests dwellings and buildings.

Ecology

The American cockroach prefers warm, moist and dark conditions. It tends to live indoors in colder areas but mainly outdoors in warmer areas and due to its large size, it tends not to infest the dwelling parts of buildings. Nevertheless, they are widespread in walls, roofs, subfloor voids, moist cellars, around sewers, drains and rubbish dumps.

Lifecycle

The American cockroach nymphs take approximately 6 - 12 months to develop into adults. An adult lifespan may be 6 - 12 months.

Habits

The American cockroach seems to prefer eating decayed organic waste but will eat most human and animal foods, papers and clothing (particularly if soiled). An adult American cockroach may survives for 2 - 3 months without food, given that there is a water source.

Health Risks

- Cockroaches often dwell in environments that support the growth of harmful organisms, viruses and can also carry eggs of worm parasites.
- Each cockroach may carry millions of diseases outside and inside of it's body, including salmonella food poisoning or diseases such as dysentery, tuberculosis, hepatitis, typhoid fever and many more.

Management

Effective management of pest cockroaches rely on:

- High standards of sanitation and hygiene which will reduce factors that may facilitate a population growth.
- A comprehensive inspection/survey of the building(s).



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