

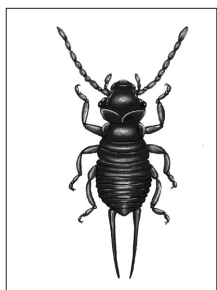
# PEST CONTROL FACT SHEET



1

Pest  
**Control**  
Service

## Earwigs (Forficula auricularia)



### Size

12-20mm

### Colour

Brown

### Occurrence

These insects mainly dwell outdoors in the soil & under paving slabs, occasionally entering dwelling houses.

### Biology

The female lays anything up to 30 eggs at a time below the surface of the soil. The female tends the eggs until they have hatched.

### Food

The main food of earwigs is vegetable matter which it usually seeks at night. It may eat living and dead insects. Indoors it is a harmless nuisance.

### Control

These insects are not an infesting species, they are commonly known as casual intruders, therefore chemical control is very rarely required. The following measures should help prevent earwigs becoming a problem to you:

- Remove vegetation from around buildings.
- Proof entry points to prevent insects gaining access to the building.
- Empty or clean out gutters to remove rotting leaves etc.

If problems persist then the use of an insecticide may be required.



### Pest Control Services are based:

Environmental Protection  
453 Main Street  
Coatbridge  
ML5 3RS

**Telephone Northline on  
01698 403110**

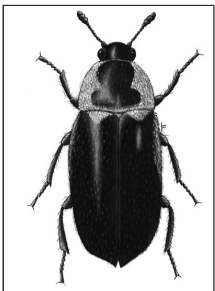


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# PEST CONTROL FACT SHEET

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Pest  
**Control**  
Service



## Hide Beetles (*Dermestes maculatus*)

### Size

6-10mm long oval shaped

### Colour

Dark brown/black

### Occurrence

Hide beetles are common household pests, they are often found in kitchens where they can scavenge for food debris. They will also feed and breed under units and under kitchen appliances such as cookers & washing machines.

### Biology

Egg — larva — pupa — adult. Complete life cycle usually 12-16 weeks.

Larvae — up to 14mm long, dark brown banded, with distinctive bristles.

Adults — 6 — 10mm long with short clubbed antennae, active fliers.

### Food

Larvae feed mainly on dry decomposing animal matter but may also feed on vegetable matter.

### Control

Food storage & preparation areas should be kept in a clean condition. Deposits of food debris etc. should be removed from corners, cracks etc. Where possible appliances should be removed and area below and behind cleaned thoroughly. Refuse should be suitably contained and refuse storage areas should be kept clean.

A residual insecticide should be applied where an infestation of dermestes beetles is found. All room surfaces should be thoroughly cleaned before any insecticidal treatment is carried out.

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# Common Black Ant (Lasius niger)

### Size

Workers 4mm - Queen up to 10mm

### Colour

Black

### Occurrence

Widely distributed in Britain. Commonly found in gardens, will enter buildings when foraging for food.

### Biology

Mating takes place in flight and occurs between July & September. After mating the male ant dies and the females shed their wings and find shelter to overwinter. The females will produce eggs from late spring.

### Food

Ants feed on a wide variety of foods including sweet substances.

### Control

Control of these insects is only required when they are entering or living in building structures. The first approach should be to seal up any entry points in the building to prevent ants gaining access to the property. If problems persist a band of insecticide may be applied to harbourages and at entrances to buildings i.e. windows, doors and vents. Ensure that sugary foods are kept in sealed containers and all food spillages are cleaned up.



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## Pest Control Service

# Woodlice / Slaters (Order Isopoda)



Image supplied by Killgerm

### Size

5-17mm

### Colour

Slate grey

### Occurrence

They are found world-wide. Woodlice avoid light and are mostly active at night. They thrive in moist locations and are commonly found under objects on damp ground as well as under debris of all kinds.

### Biology

In our climate they only breed during the summer months and may produce up to 200 young per year.

### Food

Woodlice normally feed on decaying vegetable matter.

### Control

Leaves, grass clippings, mulch, boards, stones and similar materials close to buildings affected should be removed, since these may harbour woodlice.

Repair and seal cracks and openings in walls, around doors and window frames to prevent access by slaters.

Control of woodlice indoors may be achieved by cleaning (as they do not breed indoors).

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# PEST CONTROL FACT SHEET

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Pest  
**Control**  
Service



Image supplied by  
Killgerm

## Booklice/Psocids (Order Psocoptera)

### Size

1-2mm

### Colour

Pale colour translucent

### Occurrence

Booklice can be found outdoors, under bark, on walls & in crevices. Indoors they prefer areas of high humidity, the kitchen is the most common place to find them, and fitted cupboards provide suitable harbourage. They can be found living in the folds of packaging in food cupboards.

### Biology

They can live for about six months and in that time may lay up to 200 eggs.

### Food

They feed on microscopic moulds and mildews which flourish in warm humid places such as domestic kitchens.

### Control

Any infested commodities should be destroyed. Clean affected areas with a dry cloth or vacuum. Keep storage areas well ventilated & store vulnerable foodstuffs like flour etc. in sealed containers. A treatment with a suitable residual insecticide may be required in cupboard joints to completely eradicate the problem.

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