



German Cockroach

Blattella germanica

Description

Adults: Adults are 15 mm (0.625 inches) long. Light brown in color with two prominent black stripes running down the broad shield (pronotum) behind the head.

Eggs: Eggs are contained inside a capsule like structure, made by the females, called an ootheca. Females carry the ootheca until it is within 1 to 2 days of hatching, and then deposit it in a protected location. A female may produce 4 to 8 ootheca in her lifetime with average 30 - 40 eggs per ootheca.

Larvae: Cockroaches undergo incomplete metamorphosis and do not have a larval stage. Young cockroaches are referred to as nymphs. Newly hatched nymphs range in color from cream/tan to black/brown and tend to resemble the adults more closely as they reach maturity.

Pupae: There are no pupae in the German cockroach lifecycle due to incomplete metamorphosis.

Life Cycle

Developmental time from egg to adult varies from 54 days to 215 days depending upon temperature and humidity., Generally, it takes 50 to 60 days for an egg to develop into an adult. Adults live 100 to 200 days.

Damage and Detection

Warm and humid areas are preferred but infestations can occur in many structural areas. Kitchens, locker rooms, and bathrooms are most commonly infested areas. The insects themselves are often visible in infested areas as well as fecal spots in and near harborage areas.

Corresponding Products from Insects Limited

- [Cockroach Lures \(IL-805\)](#)

QUICK SCAN

	SIZE	/	LENGTH
Adult	0.625 inch		(15 mm)
COLOR RANGE			
Adult	Light brown		
Nymphs	Cream/tan to black/brown		
LIFE CYCLE			
Adults	Live 100- 200 days		
Egg to Adult	50-60 days		
FEEDING HABITS			
Often visible in infested areas as well as fecal spots in and near harborage areas.			
INFESTATION SIGNS			
Warm and humid areas preferred. Infestations can occur in many structural areas, kitchens, locker rooms, and bathrooms.			

German Cockroach Monitoring Guidelines

Lure

Cockroach & Silverfish Lure - Contains food attractant odors for multiple pest species.

Lure Storage

Keep unopened lures in cool storage less than 16°C (60°F) or place in freezer for extended storage. Lures can remain frozen for up to 24 months or at room temperature for 12 months to retain their full effectiveness for use afterwards

Trap Designs Used with Lure

Flat traps that sit horizontally on the floor or a shelf and that have less than a 2 mm rise or ones that incorporate a shallow ramp that leads into a sticky glue are recommended to use with the Cockroach & Silverfish Lure. The lure should be placed in the very center of the glue surface.

Trap Placement Techniques

Food lure traps can be out placed year-round but are especially recommend during warmer months when temperatures exceed 12.5°C (55°F). Floor traps like the Flat Trap are most effective at capturing German cockroaches. In areas such as a closet or home, place one or two traps per room. In commercial areas, such as warehouses or retail stores, place food lure traps 7.5–15 m (25–50 feet) apart to determine the presence or absence of German cockroaches. Increase food lure trap density to 4.5–7.5 m (15–25 feet) apart to help locate source of German cockroaches. German cockroach food lure traps are best utilized in areas that store food goods, particularly items that contain meats, starches, sugars, and fatty foods.

Trap and Lure Maintenance

Replace traps when glue is filled with insects or becomes dusty. Replace pheromone lures every 90 days. Replace all pheromone lures in a location at the same time. Do not stagger lure replacement over several weeks. Record date and number of catches to identify trending information.

Fun Facts

- Similar species include American cockroach (*Periplaneta americana*), oriental cockroach (*Blatta orientalis*), smokey brown cockroach (*Periplaneta fuliginosa*), and brown-banded cockroach (*Supella longipalpa*).
- Spread filth and germs from unsanitary places like sewers, garbage, damp areas onto food supplies and food prep surfaces.
- Can carry wide variety of protozoa and other microorganisms which may occasionally spread disease to humans.
- Excrement and cast skins can cause allergic reactions.
- Usually not associated with severe illnesses or disease outbreaks.