

► For Further Information

► The Natural & Built Environment

Babergh District Council
Corks Lane
Hadleigh
Ipswich
IP7 6SJ

Other information leaflets available:

- Carpet, Museum & Fur Beetle Control
- Furniture Beetle (Woodworm) & Wharf Borer Control
- Cockroach Control
- Larder Beetle Control
- Spider Beetle Control
- Housefly Control
- Flea Control
- Black Ant Control
- Silverfish, Earwig, woodlouse & Slug Control
- Psocid (Booklouse) Control
- Seagull Control
- Pest Control Advice
- Rodent Control

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www.babergh.gov.uk



The Natural & Built
Environment Division

► ADVICE TO HOUSEHOLDERS ON BISCUIT BEETLE CONTROL

► Babergh District Council

www.babergh.gov.uk/babergh/pests

This document can be made available on audio tape, in Braille,
large print or an alternative language upon request by
telephoning 01473 822801

► Advice to Householders on Biscuit Beetle Control

► CHARACTERISTICS

The biscuit beetle has hard leathery wings which meet along the mid line of the back. It has biting mouthparts, a well-developed thorax (the part of the body between the neck and the abdomen) and segmented antennae, which are segmented with a club, like tip. It is reddish brown in colour with a covering of short yellowish hairs and is 2-3.5mm long.

BISCUIT BEETLE ►



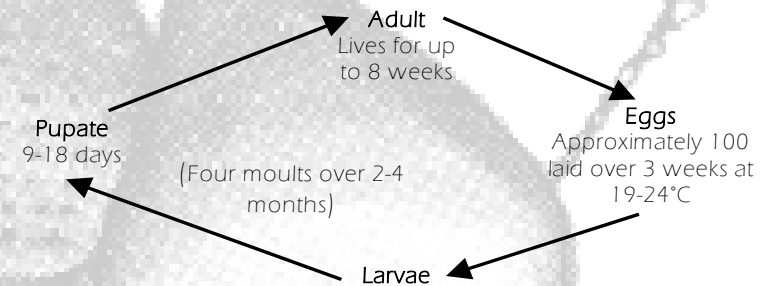
► BEHAVIOUR

The biscuit beetle is a worldwide pest that is found in shops and domestic larders infesting a wide variety of dried vegetable matter. In a warm atmosphere there may be as many as four generations.

► SIGNIFICANCE

The biscuit beetle is a pest of cereal products such as flour, bread, breakfast cereals, spices, beverage concentrates and medicines. Infested products may cause the contamination of other products. Packaging may be damaged by larvae that can penetrate tinfoil and sheet lead. They may also attack books and manuscripts.

► LIFE CYCLE



► CONTROL MEASURES

► HYGIENE MANAGEMENT

Food stores should be kept clean, well insulated, ventilated and damp proofed. Cracks and crevices which may provide harbourage for the beetles should be kept to a minimum. Food should be stored off the floor in suitable containers and rotated correctly. Any spillage of foodstuffs should be cleared up immediately and any infested foodstuffs should be disposed of upon discovery of the infestation.

► INSECTICIDAL CONTROL

Insecticides can be applied to the fabric of the building or food storage areas, concentrating on any areas that may provide harbourage. Before carrying out any insecticide treatment, it is essential to ensure that all foodstuffs remaining are well protected to prevent any risk of contamination during treatment.