

INFORMATION SHEET
An Environmental Protection Team Service



Cockroach

Blattella germanica or orientalis

Two main species in UK are German which is light yellowish brown and 12mm long and the Oriental which is dark brown and 30mm long. Both species' bodies are divided into three sections.

Although generally found indoors in cellars, basements, kitchens, bakeries, etc., the Oriental cockroach can survive outside in Britain.

Cockroaches feed on a wide range of foodstuffs, particularly refuse and human food. They can survive for several months without food, but only a few weeks without water. Cockroaches hide in cracks and crevices during daylight hours and can climb with ease.

Before treatment can be done, the area needs a thorough cleaning and removal of food sources. Sticky traps are only useful in monitoring the extent of the infestation. A residual insecticide should be used to ensure that as the egg cases hatch, the new adults are killed off. Insecticide baits give continuous control over cockroaches for an extended period.