



COMMAND PEST CONTROL

Pest information sheet 63 - Foreign grain beetle



Appearance:

Foreign grain beetles are about 2-3mm long and reddish-brown in colour. They have a slightly raised peg on both sides of the thorax near the head. It is a fast moving beetle.

Breeding

The adult female may lay 500 eggs, laid at random either loosely or in crevices.

Food

This beetle is a fungus feeder and thrives in damp conditions and where moulds are likely to grow e.g. on pallets, packaging etc. It is a secondary stored product pest. Foreign grain beetles normally exist outside as scavengers, feeding on plant and animal debris and their associated fungi.

Where do Flat grain beetles live?

They are common in August and September as temperatures cool and humidity and rainfall increases in the UK but are more active earlier in the year in northern Europe. Foreign grain beetle numbers drop dramatically in the autumn once the humidity falls below 60%. Warehouses, silos, mills, food processing factories and in stored grain and sometimes on the surfaces of finished products in storage especially around pallet wrap film. The small size and high mobility of this beetles makes it difficult to keep them out of premises. They can easily enter through gaps in the fabric.

For more advice and control recommendations contact us on 01787 248049

Damage:

They will infest stored food causing spoilage and often seen as a foreign body contaminant. They readily fly and commonly foreign grain beetles enter into buildings and will cross infest stock in warehouses when present.

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