

PESTS COVERED: Carpet Beetles and Hide Beetles

EFFECTIVE DATE : November 2013

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## AFTER - SERVICE CHECKLIST





Variegated Carpet Beetle Carpet Beetle & Larvae Species: Carpet Beetles, Hide Beetles Hide Beetle and Larvae

## Habitat

**Carpet Beetles** live mainly in garden areas. Adult beetles feed mainly off pollen and nectar. They enter the home via cut flowers, open doors and windows, and can also be found in bird nesting materials in roof cavities. They are usually between 2-3mm in size.

Once inside, the beetle will lay its eggs in dark undisturbed areas such as skirting areas and under furnishings. Once the larvae have hatched they will feed on dry materials of animal origin such as:

•	Wool	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Fur	•	Silk
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Felt	- Contra - C	Dried Meat	- Contra - C	Carcasses

Carpets, rugs, underfelt, wall hangings, clothing and wool insulation are frequently damaged. At times damage to carpet may be so bad, removal of carpet and treatment of the flooring beneath may be required.

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

## **Post Treatment Recommendations**

**DO NOT** enter premises for <u>at least</u> 4-5 hours to allow carpets to dry

DO NOT remove any powder residue from treated areas for a minimum of 2 weeks

**DO** wash any clothing that may have come into contact with the powder or residue **DO** discard gloves after contact with the powder residue **DO** wash skin that has come into contact with the power or residue thoroughly.

## Prevention Tips

The Larvae thrive on soiled materials. Therefore it is important that no stained or soiled clothes etc. be stored or put away in cupboards or on shelves. Simple stains such as soup, perspiration and beer are an open invitation to attack.

- The build-up of fluff that normally collects in cupboard corners and around the edges of carpets is another ideal breeding place
  - Regular vacuuming of the home is essential, paying particular attention to wardrobes, cupboards, under chairs and lounges, carpet joins along skirtings, cracks and crevices in wooden floors and behind headboards and under beds
- Each summer it is often normal practice to store away winter clothes. By following this simple procedure the risk of an infestation in these clothes can be substantially reduced.
- Firstly, all items of clothing and fabrics should be thoroughly washed or dry-cleaned before storing. They should then be sealed on their hangers in black plastic bags and hung in the sun for 3-4 hours.
- Shaking out all rugs and mats.Cleaning in the crevices of lounges, chairs, etc. Thoroughly cleaning up any stains or spills on carpets.
- Washing and steam-cleaning of flooring, where appropriate, is effective.

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