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La cucuracha, La cucuracha Cockroaches

Pest Control Services

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Cockroaches

Characteristics

There are two species commonly found in the UK:-

German Cockroach (*Blatella germanica*)

These are small (approximately 15mm long) active yellowish-brown cockroaches with two dark brown stripes. They have wings but do not normally fly and are primarily nocturnal.

Oriental Cockroach (*Blatella orientalis*)

These are dark brown and grow up to about 30mm long. They are incapable of flight and are primarily nocturnal.

Where to Find Cockroaches

Cockroaches are an ancient insect species that have always lived amongst humans.

In the UK the German cockroach is a serious pest of warm indoor environments such as bakeries where it may rapidly spread if conditions are suitable. It can climb smooth surfaces so may be found at high levels.

The Oriental cockroach is frequently associated with restaurants, hotels, laundries, hospitals and other institutions. It may also occur outdoors around drains, dustbins and rubbish tips.

Problems caused by cockroaches

Cockroaches are considered a public health hazard as they feed on virtually anything. This feeding behaviour can result in cockroaches feeding in drains and waste storage areas. Diseases can be picked up and transferred onto food products and surfaces.

They carry bacteria which can be responsible for gastroenteritis, dysentery and typhoid. They can also pick up and transmit pathogens. In extreme cases cockroaches can cause allergic reactions for some people, including asthmatics.



Life Cycle

The adult female produces egg cases containing a variable number of eggs which hatch into nymphs, closely resembling the much larger adults. The nymphs develop through a number of moults before reaching maturity.

Control

If you suspect you have an infestation, watch for insects scuttling away to hide when you enter at night. Use a torch to check behind units, refrigerators and cookers.

Treating a cockroach infestation is challenging and we recommend that it is done professionally. However this should be backed up by maintaining good housekeeping and hygiene. Due to their biology cockroaches are very quick to spread and where there is a large infestation it is possible that neighbours and surrounding properties may also have a problem. Suspected infestations must be dealt with quickly.

Please contact us for further information on treatments and current charges



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