



BEDBUG FACT SHEET

Control Challenges

Biology, Behavior, & Characteristics	What this means to you
Bedbugs are Nocturnal & Cryptobiotic (they are “shy”) and like to hide during the daytime	They easily avoid detection causing populations to grow rapidly
Bedbugs are Thigmotactic (Prefer tight spaces)	They will hide in virtually any crack and crevice available in a room or wall void
Egg to adult development can range 5 to 8 weeks, to as much as eight months or more	Bedbugs can live beyond traditional service programs
Lifespan = 6 months to 1.5 years (maybe longer)	They can go into a “Diapausal” state (dormancy) & reappear several months later. Consider this when working with property management accounts and treating vacant units known to have bedbugs!
Females lay eggs in clusters (1 to 12 per day) in groups of 10 to 50. She can also lay as many as 500 in her life time!	Uncontrolled populations can grow very rapidly and take over an entire room, wing, or structure.
Females “cement” the eggs in cracks & crevices, wall voids, or anywhere she feels they will be safe to develop	Enhances survival rate of eggs by avoiding commonly treated areas. Using aerosol foam with an Ovicidal (egg killing) capability such as <i>Bedlam</i> and dusts, such as <i>PyGanic Dust</i> is highly recommended.
Can go without feeding for 80 to 140 days (one study showed 550 days – 18 months!)	False sense of security (Control) due to lack of biting or activity being seen/detected.
Bedbugs travel very well within wall voids	Room-To-Room movement is highly likely. Hiding in wall voids can make control very difficult without a sound IPM program and multi-product approach.
Rodents, Bats, Birds (pests) + Pets (dogs, cats, hamsters, etc.) can act as possible hosts	These hosts can not only move an infestation around a structure, but keep a population thriving during and after treatment.
Bedbugs can be highly resistant to synthetic pyrethroids	Using a synergist such as <i>Exponent</i> with PBO (Piperonyl Butoxide) to combat MFO resistance along with a microencapsulated product like <i>Onslaught</i> will increase the residual efficacy and provide your best defense.