

# Your Guide To BED BUGS

**PCT**  
PEST CONTROL TECHNOLOGY

## About the Author...

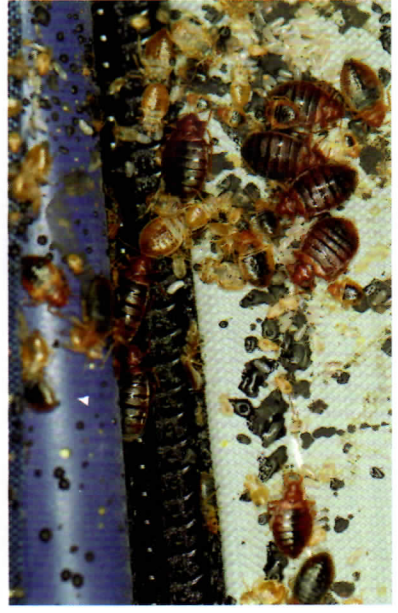
Dr. Michael F. Potter is a professor and entomologist at the University of Kentucky, specializing in pests infesting buildings, people and property. Before joining UK in 1991, Potter worked in the pest management and agrichemicals industry. He's been working on the bed bug crisis for many years, providing insights and advice to the public.



# Understanding, Prevention and Control

*Bed bugs are back with a vengeance. Use this hand-out to train employees and educate stakeholders before battling this formidable foe.* ▶ BY MICHAEL F. POTTER

Until recently, most people had never seen or heard much about bed bugs, and they were rare for pest managers too. Historically, bed bug infestations were common in the United States before World War II. But with improvements in hygiene, and especially the widespread use of DDT during the 1940s and '50s, the bugs all but vanished. In recent years, however, bed bugs have made a major comeback in the U.S. and around the world. Infestations are again occurring in homes, apartments, hotels, and college dormitories. There also have been bed bug incidents in schools, shelters, hospitals, libraries, movie theaters, offices, and on public transportation. Immigration and travel have contributed to the recurrence of bed bugs in this country, along with less effective insecticides and a lack of vigilance.



Bed bug adults, nymphs, eggs, shed skins and fecal spots on a mattress.

## PCT Media Group

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