

Pest Profile



Photo credit: Daniel R. Suiter, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Oriental cockroach

Scientific Name: *Blatta orientalis*

Order and Family: Blattodeae, Blattidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	Egg case-ootheca- 8-10mm	Dark brown, purse-shaped and containing about 16 eggs per ootheca
Larva/Nymph		Resemble adult but smaller and no wings
Adult	22-27mm	Dark brown to black in color Males with wings covering most of the body, does not fly Females with short wing pads that are not functional
Pupa (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Chewing mouthparts

Host plant/s: Oriental cockroaches prefer foods high in starch but will readily consume most anything. Some common food items are garbage, sewage, and decaying matter. They prefer moist environments.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Oriental cockroaches are of primary concern when they contaminate food product. Because of the areas they frequent and their feeding habits, they are known to carry disease organisms responsible for various gastroenteritis diseases. Fecal contamination usually contains these same organisms and can leave an odor on the surfaces they encounter. Cast skins and excrement also contain allergens that affect people with allergies or asthma.

References:

McCanless, K. (2017). Oriental Cockroach- *Blatta orientalis*. *Featured Creatures*. University of Florida. http://entomology.ifas.ufl.edu/creatures/urban/roaches/oriental_cockroach.htm

Jacobs, S. (2013). Oriental Cockroaches. *Insect Advice from Extension*. Pennsylvania State University. <https://ento.psu.edu/extension/factsheets/oriental-cockroaches>