

# Pest Profile



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**Common Name:** Field cockroach

**Scientific Name:** *Blattella vaga*

**Order and Family:** Blattodea: Blattellidae

## Size and Appearance:

The field cockroach bears a strong resemblance to both the German cockroach, *Blattella germanica*, and the Asian cockroach, *Blattella asahinai*. However, field cockroach is generally smaller and can be easily differentiated from the other two species as it has a dark stripe between the eyes.

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	Ootheca 5 – 6 mm	Ootheca are pale yellowish-brown, and usually two-toned, with one end paler than the other. The length is less than twice the width. This species is oviparous, carrying the ootheca until nymphs emerge. Each ootheca contains about 28 eggs.
Larva/Nymph		Early instars are a yellowish cream color with dark cerci. Later instars have more dark pigmentation. They appear more yellowish orange than German cockroach nymphs.
Adult	9 – 12 mm	The adults are winged and capable of flight. The pronotum has two dark longitudinal stripes. They are light brown to tan with a slight olive tone.
Pupa (if applicable)		N/A

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

The nymphal stages and adults have chewing mouthparts.

**Host/s:**

Field cockroaches generally feed on decaying vegetation, but also have been observed feeding on small insects.

**Description of Damage:**

Field cockroaches can be found under stones, debris, in weedy vegetation, mulch and other similar areas that may provide shelter or retain moisture. They rarely enter buildings, but may do so in dryer times seeking moisture. They are also attracted to lights. Field cockroaches are not known to cause any significant agricultural damage, but they may become an annoyance and build up significant populations in well irrigated areas.

**References:**

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