Pest Profile

Photo credit: by Jim Kalisch, University of Nebraska

Common Name: Bed Bug

Scientific Name: *Cimex lectularius*

Order and Family: Hemiptera: Cimicidae

Size and Appearance: Bedbugs are quite small, averaging about 4 mm in length. They are oval shaped, have flattened bodies, and light brown coloration. Bedbugs have piercing-sucking mouthparts with internal stylets used for sucking blood. Nymphs share similar characteristics to the adult form.

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	**< 0.05 mm in length**	**Eggs are white and deposited individually in cracks and crevices. They are generally placed in clusters. Females can produce 540 in her lifetime.**
Larva/Nymph	**2-14 mm depending on instar**	**Nymphs are transparent/white when first emerging from egg but fade to same color as adults. They go through a total of 5 instars.**
Adult	**11-14 mm in length**	**Oval-shaped, brown, flattened appearance. Piercing-sucking mouthparts with internal stylets.**
Pupa (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Piercing/sucking

Host: *Cimex lectularius* generally is associated with humans as they are their preferred host species.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Bedbug infestations are a public health concern as they are difficult to control and cause discomfort for most individuals who are bitten. They are quite the

hitchhikers, and can travel on hosts, textiles, and other materials quite easily. Adults can survive up to one year if they have had a sufficient blood meal. There is no conclusive evidence at this time that they vector any disease.

References:

Smith, E.H. and Whitman, R.C. (2007). Blood Feeders- Bed Bug. In *NPMA Field Guide of Structural Pests*. (3.1.1). National Pest Management Association International.

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Jacobs, S. December 2015. Bed Bugs. Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences. Department of Entomology. Retrieved from the web on November 2nd, 2016 from http://ento.psu.edu/extension/factsheets/bed-bugs