

# Pest Profile



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**Common Name:** Pillbug, Roly-poly, doodle bug, woodlouse

**Scientific Name:** *Armadillidium sp.*

**Order and Family:** Isopoda: Armadillidiidae

**Size and Appearance:** Pillbugs are a dull gray, have 7 pairs of legs, 2 pairs of antennae, a flattened body, and segmented appearance. Hence the nickname “roly-poly,” adults can roll up into a tiny ball when disturbed.

	<b>Length (mm)</b>	<b>Appearance</b>
<b>Egg</b>	< 0.01 mm	Clusters of 45 small, white eggs. Carried in the brood pouch of female. Young emerge from the pouch after 45 days.
<b>Larva/Nymph</b>	1-7 mm	Nymphs resemble adults and molt within the first 24 hours of emerging from eggs. *Nymphs have 6 pairs of walking legs
<b>Adult</b>	7-15 mm	Dull gray coloration, segmented body, 7 pairs of walking legs, 2 pairs of antennae, paired terminal appendages attached on backend.
<b>Pupa (if applicable)</b>		

**Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.):** chewing

**Host/s:** *Armadillidium sp.*, are attracted to moisture and tend to seek indoor environments that offer a constant food supply and humidity. If they are present inside, more than likely there is a large number present right outdoors, usually in flower beds, grass clippings, flower pots, and mulch.

**Description of Damage (larvae and adults):** Pillbugs do not cause physical damage indoors as they feed mostly on decaying plant matter, but can be a nuisance pest when populations are high. Outdoors they can cause injury to immature, recently potted plants in the right conditions.

**References:**

Smith, E.H. and Whitman, R.C. (2007). Occasional Invaders- Pill Bugs. In *NPMA Field Guide of Structural Pests*. (7.20.1). National Pest Management Association International.

Potter, M.F. (1998). Sowbugs and Pillbugs. University of Kentucky Extension. Retrieved on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 from <https://entomology.ca.uky.edu/ef439>