

Red & Confused Flour Beetle

Scientific Name: *Tribolium castaneum*/*Tribolium confusum*



Red Flour Beetle



Confused Flour Beetle

Identification Tips:

Color	Reddish-brown
Legs	6
Size	1/8 inch long
Identifying Characteristics	Red flour beetle antennae terminate in abrupt, 3-segmented club; Confused flour beetle antennae segments increase in size gradually from base to tip

Characteristics of this insect:

- Have been found in barley, breakfast cereals, corn meal, crackers, oats, rice, wheat and wheat bran, flours, spices, sunflower seeds, pet foods, birdseed and a host of other dry products
- Females lay between 300 -400 eggs over a period of five to eight months
- Life cycle requires 7 to 12 weeks and the adult can live 3 years or more
- Red flour beetles can fly short distances, while the confused flour beetle does not fly

Is this insect harmful to me?

This pantry pest contaminates food which makes the food unfit for human consumption.



Why are they in my structure?

Unfortunately, you purchased a product where this problem was packaged into the product during the manufacturing process. Almost all dry, stored products for human consumption as well as dry pet food and birdseed can be infested. Once inside, this insect will branch out from infested source and reproduce in surrounding cracks and crevices which makes control extremely long and difficult.

Can I treat the problem myself?

Due to the complexity of this insect and the arsenal of products that must be incorporated into the treatment, it has been our experience that most homeowners are unsuccessful at eliminating this problem. Also, homeowners often utilize products that are ineffective or apply them not in accordance with labeling and state laws. Please remember that products may be harmful to you and your family if they are misused or misapplied.

What can Apex do for me?

An Apex representative will spend time interviewing the homeowner in order to ascertain where the presence of the red or confused flour beetle is located. That being said, Apex can provide you with a one-time application or a preventative maintenance plan.

One-Time Treatment: An interview with the homeowner is conducted along with a detailed inspection of both the inside and outside of the structure. Time is spent determining the most effective application and then a targeted application of product is made to rid your home or surroundings of these unwanted guests. A 30-day guarantee is provided with free service calls if the monthly prevention plan is not chosen.

Pest Prevention Plan: Due to the difficulty in controlling this insect, Apex recommends monthly inspections and treatments to be performed to keep your dwelling pest free year around. Free service calls are provided whenever a pest outbreak occurs. Being that a variety of other general insect problems are covered, this is a cost effective way to maintain the integrity of your home and is the **recommended treatment of Apex.**

Is the treatment safe for my children and pets?



Since 1969, Apex has always operated with one goal in mind: *“The safety of people, pets, places, and the environment is our first concern.”* Therefore, we will utilize crack and crevice and spot applications, baits, monitors, habitat modification recommendations, and natural products as a method of treatment when possible. When conventional treatments are required, our licensed technicians are trained to apply the products so as to not pose a problem to people or their pets. All conventional products are EPA registered and our technician will advise you of any necessary precautions.

What should I do now?

Call our office at 1-800-MUG-A-BUG (1-800-684-2284) to discuss your problem with a knowledgeable customer service representative. Otherwise, sign up for a free online quote today!

Red and Confused flour beetle images courtesy of the University of Florida (<http://www.entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures>)

<http://www.apexpestcontrol.net/> 1-800-MUG-A-BUG

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