

European Earwig

Scientific Name: Forficula auricularia



Identification Tips:

Color	Light red-brown to black with paler legs, antennae and wing covers
Legs	6
Size	½ inch to ¾ inch long
Identifying Characteristics	Easily recognized by their forceps-like pinchers at the end of their abdomen; adults are winged and common in Midwest

Characteristics of this insect:

- Active mainly at night and are found around lights. During the day, they hide in moist, shady places such as under stones, landscape rocks or mulch
- During spring or autumn, females lay 20 to 50 eggs in below ground chamber. Both eggs and adults overwinter
- They feed on mosses, lichens, algae, fungi, and small insects both dead and alive
- They are capable of producing foul-smelling, yellowish-brown liquid from their scent glands

Is this insect harmful to me?

They are basically harmless to humans. However, they can provide a pinch with their forceps if trying to be handled.



Why are they in my structure?

There may be moist conditions present in or around your home that helps perpetuate this problem. Also, there may be a suitable habitat for them outside in terms of mulch beds, leaf or plant debris, and objects such as stones or other landscaping effects. They will enter the structure via electrical/plumbing lines, eaves, door and window framing, overhanging tree branches, and wood piles adjacent to house to name a few. They are considered temporary pests, even though the population may be somewhat large.

Can I treat the problem myself?

Due to the conditions that help perpetuate this insect and the many places it can reside in a dwelling, earwigs are not easily eradicated by the owner of the structure. Please remember that products may be harmful to you and your family if they are misused or misapplied and should be handled by a professional.

What can Apex do for me?

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

One-Time Treatment: An interview of 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 90-day guarantee is provided with free service calls if needed.

Pest Prevention Plan: Quarterly inspections and treatments are performed to keep your dwelling pest free year around. Free service calls are provided whenever a pest outbreak occurs. Being that a variety of 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?

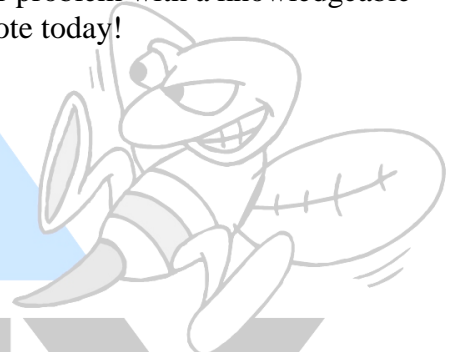


Since 1969, Apex has always operated with one goal in mind: *“The safety of people, pets, places, and the environment is our first concern.”* Therefore, we will utilize crack and crevice and spot applications, baits, monitors, habitat modification recommendations, and natural products as a method of 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!

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



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