

# PANTRY PESTS - monitor, prevent, and manage

Pantry pests are insects introduced to your cupboards from dry goods. They can easily escape and infest other stored items in your cabinets, ruining other food stores and costing you money. Use this document to familiarize yourself with common signs, how to prevent them, and what to do if you find an infestation in your home.

## Monitor

Common signs of pest contamination are:

- Silken webbing or threads
- Frass collecting at the bottom of the container
- Holes in dry grains and beans



## Prevent

- Do not purchase damaged packages from the store
- Store items in dry, well-sealed, transparent containers
- Keep shelves clean of crumbs and spills
- Thoroughly wash and dry containers before refilling



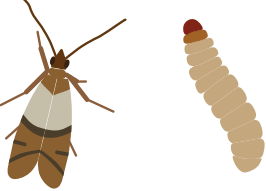

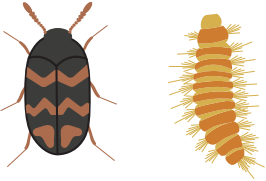

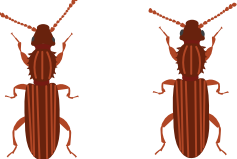

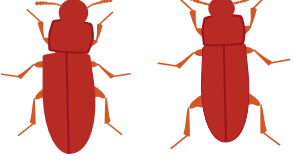

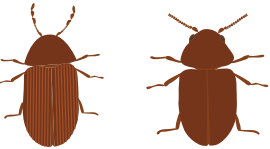

## Manage

- Throw out contaminated food and wash storage containers thoroughly
- Deep clean cabinets and other food storage areas
- Use pheromone traps to catch any survivors
- Keep dry items in the freezer until you are confident there are no more pests



Found a bug in your cabinet? Check out our ID guide for the most common stored product pests in California and what they like to eat!

# IDENTIFICATION GUIDE for Pantry Pests

Pest	Actual size	Diet	Fast Facts
<p>Indianmeal Moth</p>  <p><i>Plodia interpunctella</i></p>		<p>Cereal products, flour, cornmeal, rice, dried fruit, dehydrated vegetables, nuts, chocolate, candies, and other confections</p>	<p>Larvae can be found far from the original food source</p>
<p>Warehouse Beetle</p>  <p><i>Trogoderma variabile</i></p>		<p>Cereals, candy, cocoa, cookies, cornmeal, fish meal, pet foods, flour, nuts, dried peas and beans, pastas, potato chips, spices, dead animals, and dead insects</p>	<p>Hairs on larvae can lodge in the throat and cause medical problems</p>
<p>Sawtoothed Grain Beetle &amp; Merchant Grain Beetle</p>  <p><i>Orzaephilus surinamensis</i> &amp; <i>Orzaephilus mercator</i></p>		<p>All plant-based dried food – grain and grain products, flour, animal feed, pet food, bird seed, rodent baits, coconut, nuts, candies, and dried fruit</p>	<p>Merchant grain beetles can fly, sawtoothed grain beetles cannot</p>
<p>Confused Flour Beetle &amp; Red Flour Beetle</p>  <p><i>Tribolium confusum</i> &amp; <i>Tribolium castaneum</i></p>		<p>Damaged grains, grain products, shelled nuts, dried fruit, chocolate, medicines, and dry organic materials</p>	<p>Both species give off an unpleasant odor and may give infested items a gray-ish hue</p>
<p>Drugstore Beetle &amp; Cigarette Beetle</p>  <p><i>Stegobium paniceum</i> &amp; <i>Lasioderma serricorne</i></p>		<p>Dry plant materials, nuts, grain and grain products, dried fruit, seeds, dried fish and meat, pet foods, hair, and wool</p>	<p>Drugstore beetles have grooves on their bodies, cigarette beetles are smooth</p>