

BEDBUGS



Cimex lectularius

Bed bugs are small, oval, wingless insects that reach about 1/4 inch in length. Bed bugs have flat bodies and are reddish-brown in color. They may sometimes be mistaken for ticks or small cockroaches. Bed bugs feed by sucking blood from humans or animals. They do not develop wings nor do they fly.

flattened bodies enable them to fit into tiny crevices — especially those associated with mattresses, box springs, bed frames and headboards. Bed bugs do not have nests like ants or bees, but do tend to congregate in habitual hiding places instead.

Bed bugs usually bite people at night while they are sleeping. They feed off human blood with their elongated beak. Symptoms after being bitten varies with each individual. Many develop an itchy red welt or localized swelling within a day or so of the bite. Others have little to no reaction,

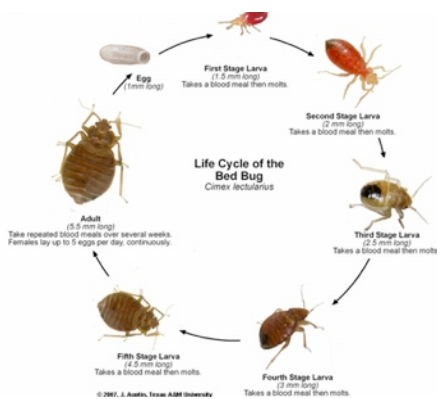
while others experience a delayed reaction. Getting rid of bed bugs is not an easy process. Pest control can help determine if



infested materials must be discarded or disinfected. Since beds cannot readily be treated with insecticides, it's often necessary to discard infested mattresses and beds.

For more information:

Bedbugs - MayoClinic.com



Recently, bed bugs have made a comeback in the U.S. And are

increasingly found in the home, apartments, hotels, motels, health care facilities, dormitories, shelters, schools, and modes of transport. People should be especially aware of Bed Bug infestation after travel. Immigration and international travel have undoubtedly contributed to the resurgence of bed bugs in the U.S. Other places where bed bugs sometimes appear include movie theaters, laundries/dry cleaners, furniture rental outlets, office buildings, and second-hand stores. Bed bugs are active mainly at night. During the daytime, they prefer to hide close to where people sleep. Their