How To Get Rid of Cigarette Beetles

By DoMyOwn staff

The most common food type infested by Cigarette Beetles is stored tobacco. However, the list of foods that the Cigarette Beetle will snack on while in larval form is almost endless.

Inspection
If you think you may have a Cigarette Beetle or other pantry pest infestation, you will want to conduct a thorough inspection of the infested area with a good flashlight and magnifying glass. Be sure to inspect all food items, corners, and crevices in the infested area. Detection of living pests or potential larva (creamy white 'wormlike' pests with a brown head) will indicate where to further focus your control efforts if needed.

If you are unsure about an item being infested, test it: Place it in a plastic bag where you will be able to catch anything that emerges. If you find the pantry pest accumulating in the bag, you know the foodstuff is contaminated and needs to be discarded. To insure any item is pest free, store it in these clear bags for at least a month.

1) Non-Chemical Control
Effective as pesticides are, it is not reasonable to think they will achieve total elimination of Cigarette beetles without any effort on your part. Practicing good sanitation and the non-chemical control techniques (eliminating conditions that favor product pests) can both speed the work of chemical control and prevent future infestations from returning.

- **Remove dry pantry foods and bulk foods from original containers and store them instead in tight-fitting containers.** (Pasta, cereal, flour- anything that comes in a paper or cardboard box)
- **Clean pantry shelves regularly**, as this will help to remove small bits of food that Cigarette beetles need to survive.
- **Never purchase a broken or damaged package.**The chance of these being infested is greater than for perfectly sealed ones.
- **Do not mix old and new lots of foodstuffs** If the old material is infested, the Cigarette beetles will quickly invade the new.
- **Clean old containers before filling them with fresh food.** They may be contaminated and cause a new infestation.
- **Keep storage units dry.** This is important because moisture favors the development of Cigarette beetles; dryness discourages them.

2) Traps
Pantry Pest Traps represent the simplest and most effective solution for getting rid of Cigarette beetles and other product pests in kitchens, pantries, bathrooms, warehouses, and food processing plants. Pantry Pest Traps are generally constructed of cardboard or paper lined on the inside with pheromone impregnated glue strip. The insect sex pheromones powerfully attract the Cigarette beetles, luring them to the trap where they get stuck on the glue strip and are not able to escape.

Benefits

- Easy To Use
- Non-Toxic
- No-Mess, No-Fuss
- Disposable

***** We recommend **Pantry Pest Kit, Aerosol & Trap**

3) Crack & Crevice Spray
PT Tri-Die Pressurized Dust Insecticide is a residual aerosol with a crack and crevice tip that can be sprayed into the cracks and crevices of cabinets and pantries to kill Cigarette beetles in the adult stage.

View our entire line of Pantry Pest Control products

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