Brownbanded Cockroach
Supella longipalpa (Fabricius)

DIAGNOSTIC MORPHOLOGY

Adults:
- Adults are 1/2” (11-14mm) long
- Color is light brown to brown with females darker
- Pale brown band run across the base of the wings of the adult and body of the nymph. Another band runs across the body as well
- The pronotal shield has a solid bell shaped pattern
- Males have wings completely covering the abdomen and can fly
- Females have wings not completely covering the abdomen and can not fly

Immature Stage:
Cockroaches experience gradual metemorphosis and form. The process goes from egg to nymph to adult.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Brown banded cockroaches are not as common as German cockroaches and prefer warmer areas (over 80 F, 27 C) and not necessarily humid areas. Higher areas of a room tend to warmer, so checking ceiling and wall molding, pictures, lighting fixtures and switches, closets, and furniture is necessary.

SIGNS OF INFESTATION

Warmer areas are preferred which can be dry. So common living areas need to be inspected as well as food and moisture areas where German cockroaches tend to live (i.e. kitchens and bathrooms). Inspect for fecal deposits, cast skins, and adults in areas mentioned in the general information.

FOOD SOURCES

Most any human food source will be fed upon.

LIFE CYCLE

The female carries the ootheca for 1 to 2 days before attaching it to the side or underside of shelves, furniture, or other structural objects. Ootheca are ¼” (5mm) long and each female can produce approximately 14 ootheca with 14 to 18 eggs each. Development from egg to adult averages 161 days with a range from 90 to 276 days depending upon temperature. Adults can live 206 days with a range from 131 to 315 days.

CONTROL & TREATMENT

There are a variety of pest management tools and tactics to control Brownbanded Cockroaches. Physical removal, chemical contact pesticides, pesticide baits, and other tactics are used based on the infested area. Confirming infestations are controlled is helped by reinspecting insect monitors placed next to or in potential harborage areas a few days after the initial treatment.

information current as of 14 November, 2007
For more information visit www.museumpests.net