Understanding Cockroach Habits and Life Cycle

- Cockroaches undergo gradual metamorphosis, passing through three life stages – egg, nymph and adult.
- Nymphs are similar in appearance to adults, but smaller.
- As the nymph matures, it sheds its exoskeleton to grow. Freshly molted cockroaches are white, assuming their typical coloration within a few hours as their cuticle hardens.
- Each nymphal stage* is larger than the previous one and the adult emerges after the last nymphal stage.
- The life cycle from egg to adult is dependent upon environmental conditions and the specific cockroach species. Each cockroach species has a unique number of immature stages.
- In general, cockroaches need four things to successfully live in an environment: water, food, shelter and warmth. Different cockroaches have slightly different requirements, which will be helpful in knowing where to inspect and focus control efforts.

Common Species

- American cockroach, *Periplaneta americana*
- Brownbanded cockroach, *Supella longipalpa*
- Smokybrown cockroach, *Periplaneta fuliginosa*
- German cockroach, *Blattella germanica*
- Oriental cockroach, *Blatta orientalis*

See identifying characteristics on page 3.

Key Signs of Heavy Infestation

- Live or dead roaches, egg casings and fecal materials. Cockroaches which prefer moist environments, such as German, American and oriental cockroaches, have more liquid feces than those living in dry environments.
- Fecal points
- Odor

Inspection

- Locate all harborage sites. Focus on areas where the following conditions exist: high humidity/free water, darkness and limited air movement. Look under sinks, refrigerators, dishwashers and stoves, around toilets, near trash containers and inside cabinets and storage areas. See common harborage sites on page 5.
- Check behind objects attached to walls such as pictures, paintings, smoke detectors and posters.
- Do not restrict inspection only to well-known areas such as kitchens and bathrooms.
- Shockwave®1 Flushing, Killing & Residual Aerosol is a useful tool to locate and flush out roaches from harborage areas that are not easily accessible. Apply at a rate of 1 second per 3 linear feet in cracks, crevices and potential harborage areas.

Pre-Treatment

- Stress the importance of sanitation to your customers and encourage them to remove competing food sources in order to increase the likelihood of cockroaches feeding on baits.
- Be careful not to contaminate bait placement areas with insecticidal dusts, aerosols, granules or liquid sprays. These products will likely reduce the palatability of the bait leading to reduced bait consumption.
## Identifying Cockroaches

Characteristics of common domestic cockroach species.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COCKROACH SPECIES</th>
<th>LENGTH (INCHES)</th>
<th>COLOR AND MARKINGS</th>
<th>EGGS PER CASE</th>
<th>EGG TO ADULT (DAYS)</th>
<th>NUMBER OF MOLTS</th>
<th>AVERAGE LIFE SPAN OF ADULT (DAYS)</th>
<th>REPRODUCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brownbanded (Supella longipalpa)</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>Light brown to brown with two light yellow bands on the body</td>
<td>14 – 18</td>
<td>90 – 276</td>
<td>6 – 8</td>
<td>90 – 115</td>
<td>Egg case glued to under surface of objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German (Blattella germanica)</td>
<td>1/2 – 5/8</td>
<td>Light brown with two dark stripes on the pronotum</td>
<td>30 – 40</td>
<td>54 – 215</td>
<td>6 – 7</td>
<td>100 – 200</td>
<td>Females carry egg cases about 24 hours before hatching, then drops it in a secure place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oriental (Blatta orientalis)</td>
<td>1 – 1 1/4</td>
<td>Dark red-brown-black</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>206 – 800</td>
<td>7 – 10</td>
<td>34 – 181</td>
<td>Egg case deposited in debris or food in sheltered place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smokybrown (Periplaneta fuliginosa)</td>
<td>1 – 1 1/4</td>
<td>Dark reddish brown with black pronotum</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>140 – 716</td>
<td>9 – 12</td>
<td>215 – 218</td>
<td>Egg case deposited in cracks and crevices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American (Periplaneta americana)</td>
<td>1 1/2 – 2</td>
<td>Reddish brown throughout with a pale band on the edge of the pronotum</td>
<td>14 – 16</td>
<td>168 – 786</td>
<td>10 – 13</td>
<td>90 – 706</td>
<td>Egg case carried up to six days before depositing in a safe place</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cockroach Life Stages

- American Cockroach
- Oriental Cockroach
- Smokybrown Cockroach
- German Cockroach
- Brownbanded Cockroach
- American Cockroach
Key Harborage Sites

- Kitchens and bathrooms
- Near food and water sources
- Inside cupboards and cabinets
- Toilet
- Hinges and door frames
- Cracks and crevices
- Wall voids
- Around motor housings in appliances
- In and around clutter (stacked boxes, cartons, cardboard, etc.)
Pre-Treatment Continued

- Use glue traps to assess the distribution of cockroaches within the premises and the density of cockroaches associated with each harborage area. Place glue traps as close to harborage areas as possible.

- For best treatment results, reduce water supplies, food supply and eliminate hiding places by reducing clutter.

Treatment

- Conduct visual/glue trap inspection, assess results and create a treatment plan.

- Insect growth regulators like NyGuard® IGR are recommended to collapse populations. Apply NyGuard IGR as a broadcast, space spray, spot or crack and crevice treatment to reduce the reproductive potential of cockroaches and to achieve 6 months of residual cockroach control.

- Shockwave®1 Flushing, Killing & Residual Aerosol is an all-in-one solution that can be used to treat harborage areas leaving an adulticide and IGR for long lasting control. Apply at a rate of 1 second per 3 linear feet in cracks, crevices and potential harborage areas.

Vendetta Nitro®

- For maintenance treatments apply 0.25 to 0.50 grams of bait per 100 sq. ft. of treatment area.

- For light infestations apply 1 to 3 grams of bait per 100 sq. ft. of treatment area.

- For heavy infestations apply 6 to 12 grams of bait per 100 sq. ft. of treatment area.

Baiting Tips

- Place bait close to harborage sites.

- Reduce competing food sources.

- Think 3-dimensionally. Don’t just think about what you can easily see on the surface and at eye level from one point of view. Look low, look high and everywhere in-between.

- Place sufficient bait for the level of infestation. Larger populations require more bait placements.

- Reapply when bait is no longer visibly present, according to the level of infestation. Replace bait before it is completely consumed to keep cockroach populations from rebounding.

- Practice bait rotation. Rotating different baits with different modes-of-action and attractants can help combat potential bait aversion and resistance.

Post-Treatment

- Evaluate the results in 1-2 weeks following initial application of Vendetta, using glue traps to monitor populations. This will help you to determine if your bait program has been successful.

- If cockroaches are discovered during your evaluation, re-inspect the premise to determine current pest pressure and harborage areas. Apply additional bait to the infested areas.

- Check the life stages captured on a glue trap: predominantly small instars indicate recent hatch; multiple life stages, especially adult males, likely indicate under-baiting of the particular harborage.
Cockroach Control Protocol

Vendetta® Portfolio of Products
Innovative Bait Matrix Technology

Vendetta Nitro™
Cockroach Gel Bait
- Use for heavy infestations
- No signal word
- Highly palatable to bait averse and non-averse cockroaches
- Contains NyGuard® IGR
- Breaks the lifecycle of cockroaches
- Stable in high heat

Vendetta® Plus
Cockroach Gel Bait
- Highly palatable to bait averse and non-averse cockroaches
- Contains NyGuard® IGR
- Breaks the lifecycle of cockroaches
- Stable in high heat

Vendetta®
Cockroach Gel Bait
- Highly palatable to bait averse and non-averse cockroaches
- Stable in high heat

NyGuard® IGR
Insect Growth Regulator
- The only IGR with EPA Reduced Risk* status
- May be used in food and non-food areas
- Photostable so it can be used both indoors and outdoors
- Up to 6 months of residual cockroach control

Shockwave® 1
Flushing, Killing & Residual Aerosol
- All-in-one flushing and residual aerosol
- Quick flush, quick kill, residual and long lasting control with an IGR
- May be used in food and non-food areas
- Offers convenience and improved cockroach control performance
- Doesn’t drip or leak, even when sprayed upside down

Contact Your Local Distributor Rep for More Information

*Pyrroproxyfen, the active ingredient in NyGuard, has EPA Reduced Risk status in food handling.