

Pro-Pest[®] R.T.U. Clothes Moth Traps

Webbing Clothes Moth

Tineola bisselliella

Fact Sheet



Clothes moths are a major pest in clothing and textiles as their larvae feed on the protein found in animal products such as wool, leather and silk. They eat away at the fabric and create holes. They reproduce rapidly and without monitoring or prevention, an infestation can become out of control before you detect their presence.

DISTRIBUTION & HABITAT:

Extensive distribution covering most of the globe, with the exception of the tropics. The clothes moth is relatively tolerant of low temperature, although it is considered to be an indoor insect. Associated with natural and animal products such as fiber, fur, fertilizers, feathers etc.

BIOLOGY:

Females actively search for suitable sites for oviposition such as natural fiber, cloth etc. Larvae will generally emerge at temperatures above 50°F. Very soon after hatch, larvae will begin construction of a tunnel from silk, fecal, and other materials found in the immediate area. These tunnels act as shelter during the day, offering the larvae good camouflage, from which they will emerge at night in order to feed. Larvae will pass through approximately five instars, although under adverse conditions there may be as many as 40 molts. Pupation occurs within the tunnel and shortly after eclosion, the adult form emerges. Adult females tend to move less than males, both sexes crawling rather than flying, with a characteristic “scuttling” in and around larval food material. Adults are unable to feed, due to atrophied mouthparts.

T. Bisselliella is able to breed at temperatures from 50°F to 92°F. Optimum relative humidity is 70%. Development of eggs may take from 6 to 38 days, larvae from 60 to 200 days and puparia 10 to 50 days. *T. Bisselliella* may be identified from its fringed wings (both hind and forewings), which are straw colored with no pattern. Antennae are long and thin. Adults reach between 1/8” and ¼” in length with a wingspan of ½” – ¾”.

SIGNIFICANCE AND PEST STATUS:

Often perceived as purely a household pest, the clothes moth has been responsible for losses of industrial revenue exceeding 12m in 1 year, although this has become less severe with a move away from natural fibers to synthetic fabrics. Other species have however filled this vacancy, most notably fur and carpet beetles. *T. bisselliella* has also been noted to infest dried vegetable material.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Sex pheromones attract the male moth. The females are not attracted to their own sex pheromone. The purpose of using a sex pheromone glue trap is to attract the male so they cannot mate with the female moth during her one-time estrus cycle, thus reducing or eliminating over a period of time the moth population.

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Webbing Clothes Moth

Tineola bisselliella

#051-PRO-CM2

#051-PRO-CM2-12

#051-PRO-CM2-100



Instructions:

Pro-Pest R.T.U. Clothes Moth traps are a discreet and effective glue trap, pre-baited with pheromone to attract and capture Webbing Clothes Moths, without the need for using insecticides. Instead, the trap's glue contains a pheromone which specifically targets the male webbing clothes moth.

The trap is odorless to humans and it operates around the clock, 24/7, with minimal work required. Check the trap on a regular basis to monitor captured moths. Moth counts will alert you to whether or not you have a problem and how serious the problem may be.

Trap Instructions:



1. Remove the release paper covering the glue. Fold trap into the triangular shape as shown in the diagram.
2. Write the date on the trap.
3. Place one trap per single confined area. In museums, warehouses and other large areas, use 1 trap every 15 – 25 ft depending upon infestation. Traps should be placed in closets, wardrobes, and other areas where fabrics such as clothes, rugs, woolens, silks, hides, furs, and feathers are located.
4. Check the trap weekly to monitor moth activity. Traps are attractive for 12 weeks. Dispose of filled trap(s) and replace with fresh trap(s) to continually monitor for webbing clothes moths.

Helpful Tips:

- Wherever possible, place trap(s) where moths are likely to fly or have been observed (in homes, this is usually the clothes closet).
- If possible, trap location should be placed in locations that it will not be moved or displaced or accidentally moved.
- Never store un-used traps with insecticides.
- Never handle traps during or after smoking or handling tobacco products. Tobacco acts as a deterrent to the trap.
- Wash hands before placing or inspecting trap units to avoid contaminating the scent of the trap.
- Avoid placing traps in areas where large volumes of air are moving out of the building.
- Store any un-used traps in a cool place and avoid direct sunlight. For best and extended storage of un-used traps, place trap in a plastic bag and place in the freezer. This will keep pheromone in trap fresh and powerful.

Note: Continued monitoring and trapping with fresh pheromone traps is essential to reducing the moth population. Complete eradication may not be possible with only trapping in areas where infestations have been well established over a long period of time. Consult a professional pest control company if the situation continues to worsen.

Caution: While this product is free of pesticides and harmful chemicals, it is recommended to keep this product out of the reach of children and pets. If ingested, consult a physician.

The information given in this instruction sheet is provided as a general guide, and is by no means extensive. The biology of pests is the subject of a great many texts and although every effort has been made to provide factually correct information, J.F. Oakes Sales & Marketing will in no circumstance be liable in respect of any omission or error.