

PUBLIC PROTECTION – ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Pest advice - Spider beetles

What do they look like?

Spider beetles are approximately 2-4mm in length, have rounded bodies and at first glance, look like spiders. Their bodies are brown in colour and are usually covered with hairs or scales.



Where do they live?

They can be found in food stores and in houses (usually older properties) where there are plenty of cracks and crevices for them to hide.

What do they eat?

Spider beetles will eat almost any food substance, but will also gnaw small holes in sacks, packaging and other materials.

Pest status

Spider beetle larvae will attack almost any dry food product including biscuits, fruit grain and vegetable matter. They will also cause considerable damage to commodities with their droppings and silk webbing.

Control measures

Hygiene - Any food commodities are found to be infested with spider beetles should be discarded, and the storage area thoroughly cleaned and vacuumed. Inspect stored foods on a regular basis and eliminate any dampness or high humidity.

Insecticidal control - Fabrics can be treated with insecticides approved for the treatment of stored product pests. Please read instructions on the label before use.

Professional advice & treatment

Powys County Council does not undertake treatment for spider beetles. Commercial pest control companies are listed on the internet, in the Yellow Pages and Thompson's Local Directory.