

# Medical Entomology Centre



Incorporating  
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## STOWAWAY COCKROACH IS HERE TO STAY

Brown banded cockroaches naturally prefer warmer climates but they are beginning to find this country has its charm too. In recent weeks one or two cases of infestation have come to light in the Eastern region and the pest's arrival has been sourced to incoming luggage from foreign parts.

Ian Burgess, Director, Medical Entomology Centre says:

"Brown banded cockroaches are an African species. However they are now becoming established in European countries and can survive quite happily in homes, as well as places like restaurants and kitchens.

"They seek out warm areas and enjoy those hard to reach places like inside upholstered furniture, refrigerator motors, and TV cabinets or behind wallpaper. Their staple diet is starch, so anything like glue or book binding is a real feast, both commonly found in our domestic dwellings."

Ten to 15mm long, the creature gets its name from its yellowish brown colouring striped with brown bands. Both sexes have wings. A female produces up to 20 egg cases in her lifetime and each one may contain as many as 16 eggs. These take approximately a month to hatch out and it can be up to nine months before the hatchlings reach full grown, reproductive size.

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Although the odd one or two can be killed off with  
than that requires the attention of a licensed pest  
with professional products.

proprietary insecticides, anything more  
controller who will treat the infestation

In premises where it is impossible or inadvisable to  
schools, an alternative form of elimination is spec

ouse sprays, such as hospitals and  
ialised baits.

For further information contact Ian Burgess, Direct  
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