

Pest Profile



Photo credit: By Jim Kalisch, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Common Name: Smoky Brown Cockroach

Scientific Name: *Periplaneta fuliginosa* (Serville)

Order and Family: Blattodea: Blattidae

Size and Appearance: Smoky brown roaches are about 25-38 mm long and shiny brownish-black in color. Both sexes of this species feature a full set of functioning wings and are strong fliers. Nymphs are black during the first instar, brown in 2nd, and have a white marking on mesothorax. Later instars are reddish-brown in color. The oothecal (egg case) is dark brown to black with 10-14 eggs on each end.

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	Ootheca- 11-14 mm	Dark brown to black, attached to surface or object, 20 eggs produced
Larva/Nymph	1-38 mm depending on instars	1 st instar black, 2 nd instar brown, both with white segment on mesothorax. Later instars are reddish-brown with rounded abdomen. 9-12 instars.
Adult	25-38 mm	Shiny brown-black in color with fully developed wings.
Pupa (if applicable)	N/A	

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Chewing

Host product/s: Smoky brown roaches feed on a wide variety of food sources, particularly decaying matter.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Smoky brown roaches prefer to be in high humid areas and remain mainly outdoors. However, they will invade homes in search of moisture and nutrition where they become a nuisance pest.

References:

Smith, E.H. and Whitman, R.C. (2007). Cockroaches-Smoky Brown Cockroach. In *NPMA Field Guide of Structural Pests*. (4.14.1). National Pest Management Association International.

Benson, E.P. (January 2001). Understanding Cockroach Control. Clemson University, Entomology, Soils, and Plant Sciences. Retrieved on July 29th, 2016 from http://www.clemson.edu/cafls/departments/esps/factsheets/household_structural/understanding_cockroach_control_hs06.html