

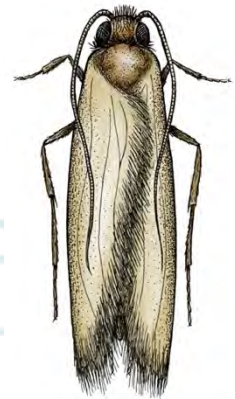
Pheromoth[®] Trap



The Pheromoth trap monitor and trap adults of the main species of clothes moth that is present in the UK, the common (or webbing) clothes moth *Tineola bisselliella*. The moth larvae can digest the animal protein, keratin that is found in hair, wool, fur and feathers and so can cause serious damage to textiles, upholstery, natural history specimens, ethnographical objects etc. Infestations can start with adult moths flying in through open doors and windows, from birds' nests or from infested objects being brought in. The adults shun the light, hiding in dark undisturbed areas and lay eggs on suitable food sources such as carpets, clothing, taxidermy etc.

Biology

The adult moths are small (5-7mm long), silvery-fawn coloured with their wings folded over their back when at rest. They fly poorly, usually near the ground and are often seen running over surfaces in a scuttling motion. The larvae, hatching from the eggs, spin webbing which it leaves as a tunnel or sheet of webbing across the material under which it grazes. The webbing usually includes large amounts of frass (excreta). This is frequently mistaken for moth eggs. However, frass pellets are hard and opaque whereas moth eggs are very small and translucent and vulnerable to physical damage. One generation, from egg to adult, normally takes a year to develop with the adults flying in the summer months. In heated buildings, two to three generations can exist. Development is delayed by temperatures below 12°C. Clean material is less vulnerable to attack than soiled and good housekeeping measures, hot washing (at 50°C) and dry (solvent) cleaning are effective control measures. A cool, clean, dry environment is the best method of preventing infestation.



Trapping and Control



The Pheromoth Trap is provided ready to use. Peel off the cover paper to reveal the glue surface and the pheromone dispensing patch. Fold and assemble into a tent shape and place in the area of moth activity. It is 13cmx11cmx 8.5cm tall when formed.



Change the trap every 3 months or sooner if the glue surface has become inactive due to dust. Store unused traps in a cool dark place until needed.

As the moths are poor fliers, locate traps at a low level, such as on the floor or close to wardrobes, cupboards, shelves etc.

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