

European Earwig

Size: Adults 1/4" to 1" long.
Males 1/4" to 3/4" long.



Description:

- Colour vary from pale brown to reddish brown with black.
- Prominent forcep like appearance on rear end.
- Antenna are thread like and about 1/2 the body length.

Biology and Habits: Earwigs overwinter in the earth after their first spring-summer season. The females lay approx 40-50 eggs and tend to them. After approx 68 days they are adults and emerge the following spring to feed on plants. Earwigs are nocturnal and require a great deal of moisture and cool temperature control.

During the peak of their summer population, combined with the humidity and heat, the earwigs begin to venture indoors of buildings seeking cool-damp conditions. There is nothing inside a home that is favorable and conducive of earwigs. They usually enter in large numbers and become very offensive to homeowners. For 2 – 3 weeks until they die off.

Control: The ideal approach is to eliminate any plants, flowerbeds, turf etc near your home. Eliminating moisture, harborage and food sources for earwigs, thereby discouraging their advancement on your home.

A more practical – realistic approach is to monitor the exterior of your home in June and keep observing outside at night to see how much earwig activity is around the home.

Contacting a professional applicator to complete an exterior ground perimeter treatment, prior to that earwig population advancing on your home, ensures you will be earwig free inside your home. We complete this beneficial service to hundreds of homes each June and July to protect them from these annual mass advances indoors.