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PEST CONTROL EXPERTS

Common House Cricket Fact Sheet

Common house crickets, also known as field crickets, are nocturnal insects that can be found throughout many parts of Australia. They are typically light yellowish brown to dark brown in colour, with three dark crossbands on their head and wings that cover their abdomen.

This species of cricket is commonly bred and sold as live food for reptiles, poultry and insectivorous pets. In parts of Asia, they are consumed by humans as a high-protein food source.

Habitat

Common house crickets thrive in warm environments and are most active at night, particularly during late summer and autumn. Their nocturnal behaviour helps them avoid predators and is when the distinctive chirping sound produced by male crickets is usually heard.

Common house crickets are typically found outdoors in gardens but may move indoors when the weather turns very cold or soil becomes waterlogged after rain. When this happens, crickets can usually be found hiding in garages, laundries and behind appliances.



Biology

Adult crickets measure 16mm to 21 mm in length and live for two to three months. They have six legs, with powerful hind legs that allow them to jump many times their own body length.

Female crickets lay their eggs in moist soil or organic material and can produce 100 to over 700 eggs in their lifetime. After approximately 14 days, the eggs will hatch. The nymphs that emerge will moult several times, increasing in size with each moult before reaching maturity.

What you can do to keep common house crickets under control

- Ensure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens.
- Seal gaps around doors, windows and external entry points.
- Turn off unnecessary external lights at night and reduce lighting near doors and windows.
- Remove leaf litter, long grass and excess mulch from gardens.
- Lift pot plants off the ground.
- Reduce access to easy water sources by fixing leaking taps and hot water systems.
- Keep garages, sheds and storage areas tidy.

Need help getting rid of common house crickets? Speak with our team today, call 13 PEST (13 7378).

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