



Customer Preparation Guide: Stored Product Pests (Pantry Pests)

Service Type: Inspection, Source Removal, & Pheromone Trapping

Overview

Stored product pests (such as Indian Meal Moths, Flour Beetles, and Weevils) usually enter the home through infested grocery items. Unlike other pests, "spraying" alone will not solve the problem if the infested source remains in your cupboard. This guide focuses on identifying the source and protecting your remaining food.

Note: You typically **do not** need to vacate the premises for this service, as it focuses on localized treatment and pheromone monitoring.

1. The "Deep Inspection" (Must be done before arrival)

You must go through every item in your pantry and cupboards to find where the insects are breeding.

- **Check All Dry Goods:** Examine all packages of flour, cereal, pasta, rice, birdseed, pet food, dried fruit, nuts, spices, and chocolate.
- **Look for Signs:** Look for small beetles, crawling larvae (tiny "worms"), or webbing (which looks like spider webs) inside the packaging.
- **Discard Infested Items:** Any item showing signs of activity must be placed in a sealed plastic bag and taken directly to the **outdoor** trash.
- **Suspect Items:** If a package is open but shows no signs of bugs, you can "quarantine" it by placing it in a sealed Ziploc bag for 14 days or putting it in the freezer for 4 days to kill any potential eggs.

2. Cupboard & Pantry Preparation

The technician needs to treat the cracks and crevices where larvae hide and pupate.

- **Empty Affected Cabinets:** Remove all food items from the pantry and cupboards where activity was seen.
- **Vacuuming:** Vacuum all shelves, paying close attention to the corners, the undersides of shelves, and the holes for adjustable shelf pegs. **Immediately** empty the vacuum into an outdoor bin.
- **Wipe Down:** Clean the shelves with soap and water to remove any spilled flour or grain dust. Do not use bleach or strong chemicals, as these can interfere with the technician's pheromone traps.

3. Storage Requirements



To prevent re-infestation after the service:

- **Hard Containers:** All new and uninfested dry goods should be moved into airtight glass, metal, or heavy-duty plastic containers. Insects can easily chew through cardboard, paper, and thin plastic bags.
- **Pet Food:** Check bulk bags of pet food or birdseed, as these are very common sources. Store these in large, sealed plastic bins.

4. Post-Service & Monitoring

- **Pheromone Traps:** The technician may place small "tent" traps. These use non-toxic scents to attract and catch adult moths or beetles. **Do not move or discard these.** They are used to monitor if the infestation is declining.
- **Limited Spraying:** If a residual spray is applied to the corners of the pantry, wait for it to dry completely (approx. 1 hour) before putting your sealed containers back on the shelves.
- **Never Spray Food:** Do not apply any household pesticides directly to food or food-contact surfaces.

In accordance with the Ontario Pesticides Act, your technician will provide a service record detailing the specific products applied.

Failure to prepare the premises according to these instructions may result in the technician being unable to treat the area and a potential cancellation fee.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping your home pest-free. MSDS are provided upon request, please send request to info@32gone.ca