

SIVERFISH CONTROL

DESCRIPTION

Silverfish are primitive (older than cockroaches), wingless insects that are ½-inch long when fully grown. They are covered with silvery scales and are flattened and somewhat “carrot” shaped. Three long, slender “antennae-like” appendages project from the end of the abdomen, giving them the name “bristle tails.”

BIOLOGY

They are found living in warm (71-90 degrees Fahrenheit), moist locations in the home and are most often found damaging books, cloth, and sometimes dried meats or dead insects. They seem especially fond of the sizing on books and paper as well as the glues and pastes found on wallpaper, labels, and paper products.

CONTROL

Silverfish are easily controlled with carefully applied residual insecticide sprays and dusts, including bendiocarb and chlorpyrifos. Care should be taken to treat wall voids, cracks and crevices, and other suspected harborage areas thoroughly. The same careful application of residual insecticides used for good cockroach control is needed to effectively control silverfish.

