

BEETLE ID



Beetles belong to the insect order **Coleoptera**, which is the largest order of insects. In North America alone, scientists have identified more than 25,000 beetle species. While many beetles are beneficial insects, they can quickly become a nuisance, and some beetles can even become destructive pests. Learn to identify the most common types of beetles across Canada.



CARPET BEETLE

DIET:

Dried animal and plant matter with high protein content, such as carcasses.

HABITAT:

Areas with low humidity serve the needs of developing eggs best. Larvae prefer dark and secluded places, while adult carpet beetles prefer sunlight and populate gardens or other plant-heavy locations.

SIGNS:

The most apparent sign of an infestation is adult beetles on windowsills. Larval casings and irregular holes in carpets and fabric can be signs of larvae.

PREVENTION:

- Inspect plants and flowers before bringing them indoors.
- Vacuum lint, hair, dead insects and other debris.
- Check window screens, doors and vents for durability.



SAWTOOTHED GRAIN BEETLE

DIET:

Stored grains, cereals, flour, spices and other processed food products.

HABITAT:

Some species are more tolerant of colder temperatures, which allows them to live farther north than other insects.

SIGNS:

When an infestation is severe, the affected grains can overheat. Adult grain beetles crawling on surfaces as well as entry and exit holes in stored products may become visible.

PREVENTION:

- Purchase dried foods, grains, cereals, and spices in small quantities that will be used in a short period of time.
- When possible, store all foods in refrigerators or freezers in tightly closed containers made of glass, metal or heavy plastic.
- Clean the crevices and corners of food storage areas.



SPIDER BEETLE

DIET:

Older or poorly stored products that are moisture compromised with mold growth.

HABITAT:

Uniquely, adult spider beetles are known to remain active in freezing temperatures. British Columbia has the highest concentration of spider beetles. This pest often infiltrates attics with rodent or bird nests.

SIGNS:

The most telling sign of an infestation is the adult spider beetle or pupal cocoons themselves. Active primarily at night, the foraging pests may leave behind accumulations of granular materials around food supplies.

PREVENTION:

- Use airtight containers to store foods.
- Vacuum regularly and remove any nests found around your home.

If beetles are a problem at your home, contact Orkin Canada to provide a thorough inspection. Based on the findings, we'll work with you to develop an effective treatment plan to help resolve the issue and keep beetles from returning.

