

Saw-Toothed Grain Beetle



Appearance:

Adult Sawtoothed grain beetles are about 1/8 inch long, brown, and have a narrow, flattened body. There are 6 saw-like teeth on each side of the prothorax. The wings are well-developed but this beetle has not been observed in flight. The mature larva is yellowish-white, elongate, and less than 1/8 inch long.

Habitat:

The sawtoothed grain beetle does considerable damage to grains but it cannot attack sound kernels. Its flat body form permits access through very small cracks and into imperfectly sealed packages. Adults are not known to fly and are not attracted to light.

Diet:

Sawtoothed grain beetles attack an extremely wide variety of foodstuffs which include cereals, bread, breakfast foods, macaroni, dried fruits, nuts, sugar, chocolate, dried meats, candy bars, drugs, tobacco, and many other products.

Solutions:

What you can do: The first step towards stopping an infestation of sawtoothed grain beetles is locating and, if possible, removing the food source(s) or excluding the breeding site(s). Beetles, larvae and pupae can be removed using a vacuum cleaner fitted with a hose attachment. Dried grain, seed, vegetable, fruit, snack foods and other vulnerable items should be stored in airtight, thick-walled containers until needed. Rodent bait that has been stashed away in structural voids by invasive mice, may be infested by beetle larvae and can be difficult to locate and treat.

Professional Solution: A Quik-Kill pest management professional will assist in locating sawtoothed grain beetle breeding sources and making recommendations for preventing re-infestation. A spot treatment of an infested structural void, or a crack and crevice treatment into cabinet corner seams and shelf junctures may be applied by the technician to stop additional pest breeding.

Larvae that form pupae in crevices may not give rise to new adult beetles for weeks. Therefore, good sanitation and food-storage practices must be maintained perpetually, once a sawtoothed grain beetle infestation of has been detected and treated.



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