

Technical Bulletin for: Webbing Clothes Moth

Tineola bisselliella (Hummel) • Lepidoptera, Tineidae • TINBIS



| DISTRIBUTION | The United States, Eurasia, and Australia |
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| Ноѕтѕ | Cotton, linen, silk and wool fabrics, as well as furs |
| DESCRIPTION | |
| Adult Moth | 6-7 mm body length and 9-16 mm wingspan (most commonly 12-14 mm). It is distinguished from similar species by its yellow-brown or ochre coloring and red-orange tuft of hair on the head. |
| Larvae | White and translucent |
| Eggs | Translucent, light whitish green when first laid, measures less than 1 mm |
| LIFE HISTORY | Females lay eggs in clusters of between 30 and 200 which adhere to surfaces with a gelatin-like glue. These hatch between four and ten days later into near-microscopic white caterpillars which immediately begin to feed. They will also spin mats under which to feed without being readily noticed and from which they will partially emerge at night or under dark conditions to acquire food. Development to the next stage takes place through between five and 45 instars typically over the course of between one month and two years until the pupal stage is reached. At this point, the caterpillars spin cocoons and spend another approximately 10–50 days developing into adults. There are two generations per year, and adults live about 15-30 days to mate. |

MONITORING INFORMATION

| LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE | E-2-octadecenal and (E,Z)-2,13-octadecadienal in a Gray Rubber Septum. Lure longevity: Thirty (30) days. |
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| TRAP TO USE | Jackson Trap or Jackson Trap Insert (without housing) |
| MONITORING STRATEGY | Hang trap or place insert near affected objects (such as within or nearby a closet where damage may occur). Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations. |
| CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL | Inspect darkened areas of room or house for moth activity. To prevent activity on clothes, brushing them frequently, freezing the object, or dry cleaning them can help remove moths. Vacuuming is another effective cultural control. In extreme cases, burning is another effective method. |
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