

KIWICARE®

Technical Sheet

1-2-3 Clothes Moth Control

How to Control Clothes Moth and Protect Clothes



About Clothes Moth

Have you found unexplained holes in your favourite woollen sweater? This may indicate an infestation of clothes moth or one of its relatives. The larvae of the clothes moth eat natural fibres usually wool, but they will eat a wide range of other fibres including hair, fur, silk, felt and feathers. If you find hole appearing in your woollen sweaters it is maybe an indication of clothes moth infestation.

Clothes moths are small (about 1 cm), buff-coloured moths. Two different species are common in New Zealand, the webbing clothes moth and the case making clothes moth. The webbing clothes moth is uniformly buff-coloured, whereas the case making clothes moth is similar in appearance but has indistinct dark specks on the wings.

Clothes moths are seldom seen because unlike many other moths they avoid light. They prefer dark, undisturbed areas such as wardrobes, basements and roof voids, and tend to live in corners or in folds of fabric. If you do see tiny moths flying about in the kitchen and other open areas, they are probably pantry moths originating from some infested cereal, flour or stored food item. Clothes moth adults do not feed so they cause no injury to fabrics. However, the adults produce eggs which hatch into the fabric-eating larvae.

The larval stage of clothes moths are creamy-white caterpillars up to 1 cm long. Webbing clothes moth larvae spin silken feeding tunnels or patches of webbing as they move about on the surface of fabrics. The case making clothes moth encloses itself in a portable case that it drags about wherever it goes.

Damage to articles may consist of irregular surface feeding or holes eaten completely through the fabric. Often, the larvae leave the material they developed on and can be seen crawling slowly over walls or ceilings. The case making clothes moth may travel considerable distances from the infested article to spin its cocoon in a protected crack, or along the juncture of a wall and ceiling.




Kiwicare 1-2-3 Clothes Moth Control

Controls adults and larvae of:

- [Clothes Moth](#)
- [Case Bearing Moth](#)
- [Carpet Beetle](#)

Directions

For all clothes damaging insects

<p>1. Clean and Dispose – Check all woollens, hair, fur, silk, felt and feather items. Remove all infested and damaged materials from wardrobes, drawers, etc. If possible, put any affected items in a hot wash and tumble dry. If items cannot be washed hot then bag and place in a freezer for 48 hours before putting them through a cool wash.</p>	
<p>2. Spray – Vacuum wardrobes and drawers. Then spray all wardrobe, and drawer surfaces with a light coat of NO Bugs Super. Pay particular attention to cracks and joins. Let the surfaces dry completely.</p>	
<p>3. Vacuum, Replace and Monitor – Vacuuming effectively removes larvae which are already present as well as hair and lint which could support future infestations. Be sure to vacuum the edges of carpets, along skirting, underneath furniture, inside wardrobes and other "quiet" areas where clothes moths prefer to feed. Once the surfaces are fully dry put the cleaned clothes back in the wardrobes and drawers. Install NO Clothes Moth Traps to monitor for moths.</p>	

For Best Results

- See the [short video](#) on kiwicare.co.nz for more information on control of clothes moth, case bearing moth and carpet beetle.

Caution

- Keep all animals out of the area being treated during treatment and until all sprays have dried completely.

Last Updated: August 2019

Kiwicare.co.nz

For information, advice and our interactive
problem solver

Kiwicare Corporation Limited
225 Maces Road, Bromley, Christchurch
Phone (03) 389-0778