

**Colorado
State
University**



BED BUGS IN SCHOOLS

BED BUG MYTHS

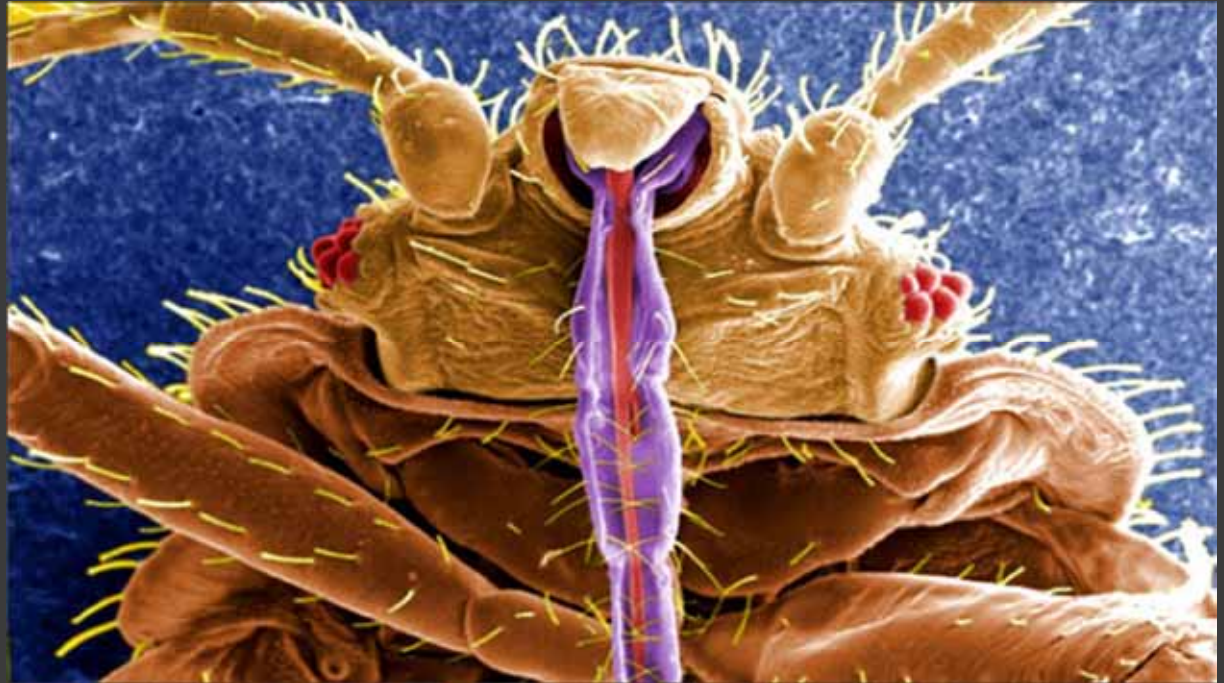


- Bed bugs transmit disease.
- Bed bugs are more common among lower income households.
- Bed bugs are attracted to dirty homes.

American Pest Management, Inc. survey, 1/12/11

BED BUGS SUCK!

Feed on
blood,
mainly at
night.



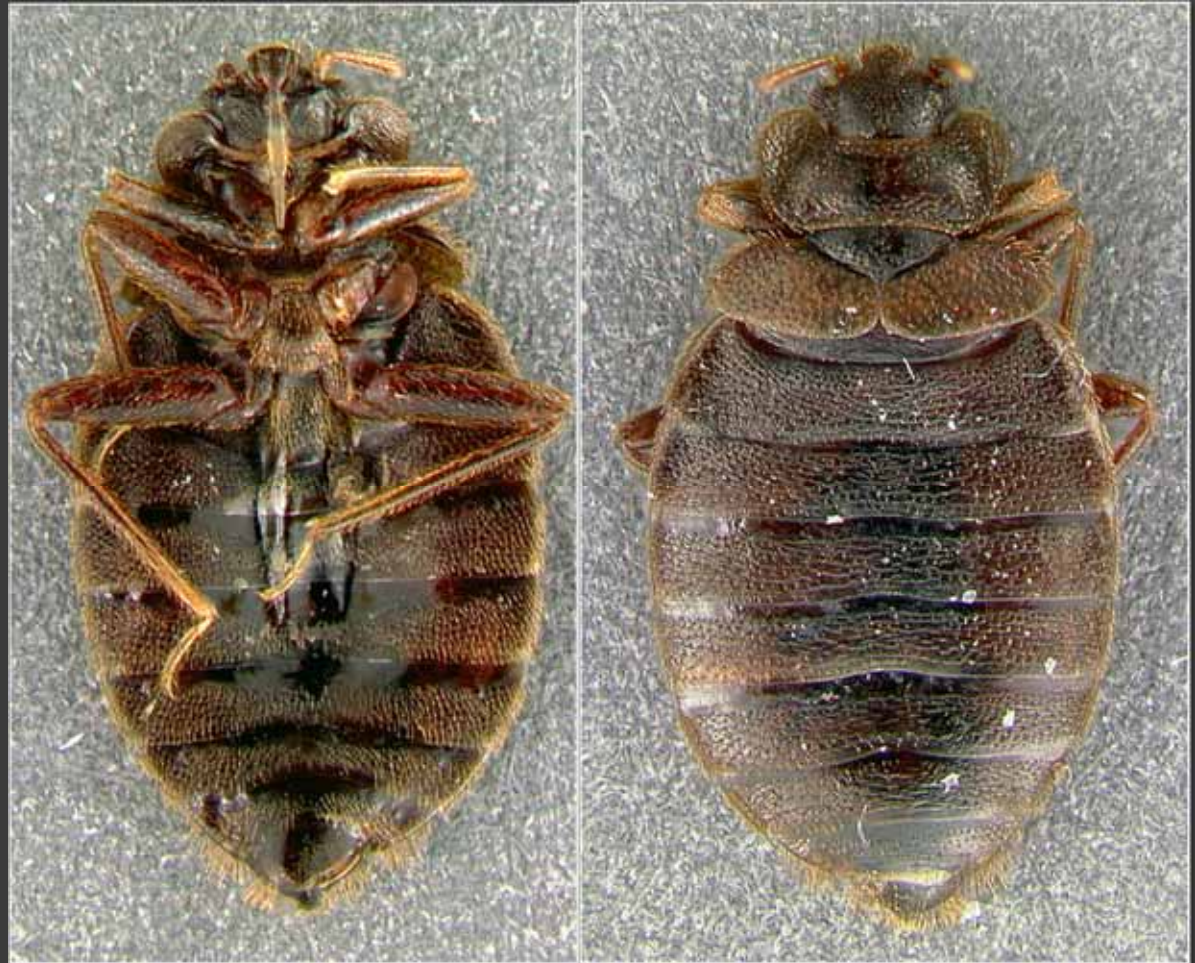
Attracted by warmth and CO².

HEALTH EFFECTS

- Not known to vector pathogens
- Bites cause mild to serious skin reactions
- Potential allergen and respiratory effects
- Sleep disturbance
- Delusional parasitosis



- Straw-colored to reddish-brown
- Oval
- Wingless
- Segmented bodies
- Covered with short, golden hairs
- Size of a pencil eraser

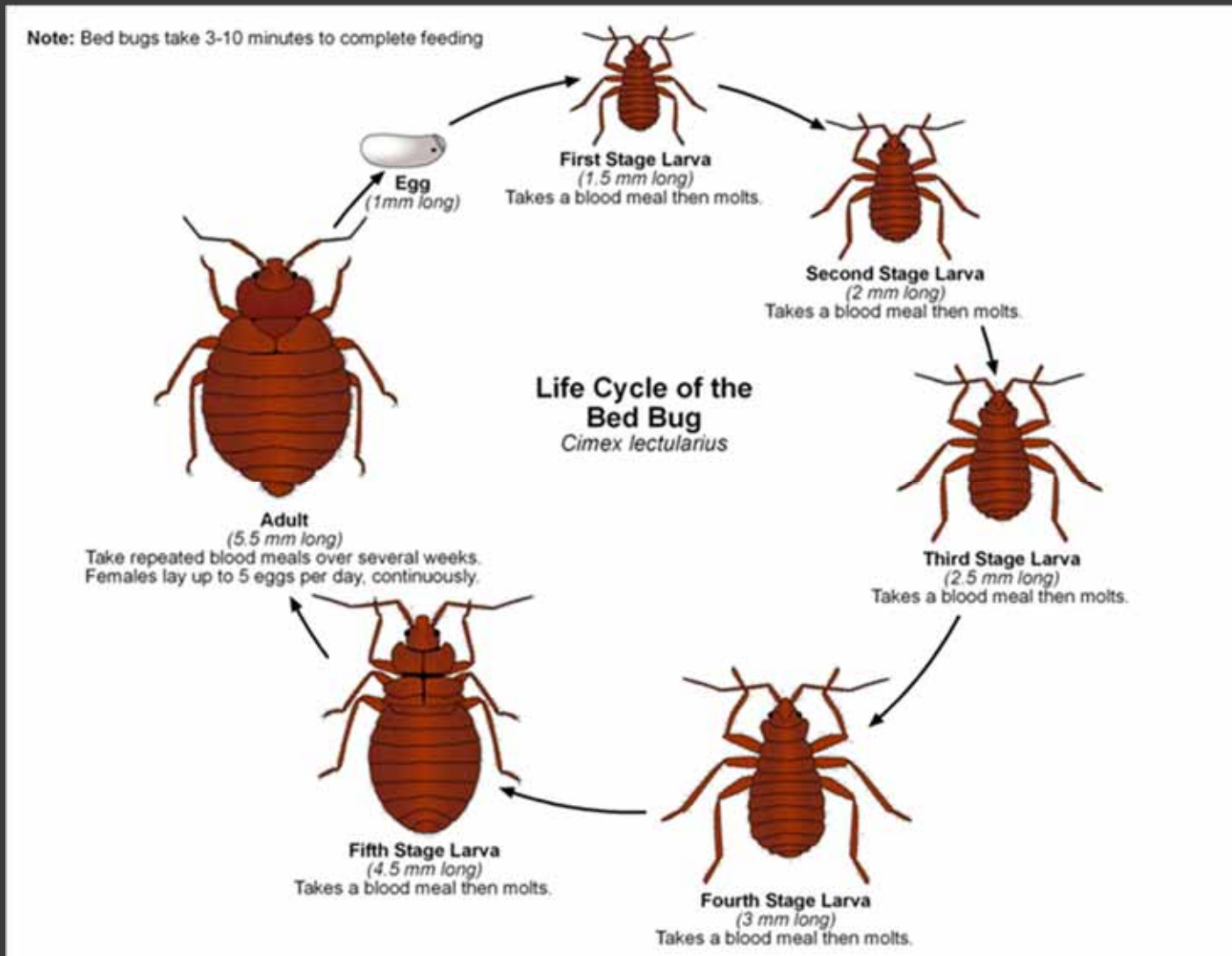


Cimex lectularius

In Colorado, the most commonly encountered species, after bed bugs, is the bat bug, *Cimex adjunctus*.



LIFE CYCLE





- Female bed bugs lay > 500 eggs; 2 – 5 eggs per day.
- Eggs laid in crevices.
- From egg to adult in 5 weeks to 4 months.



1st and 2nd
instars

- Can survive >18 months without blood

- Adults live about 10 months

- Remain active at <math><45^{\circ}</math> F



DETECTION





Inspect for
bed bugs, molts,
blood, fecal stains,
sweet smell.

Look at backpacks,
coats, upholstered
furniture, faculty
lounge, nurse's office.



TREATMENT

The best control strategy is a combination of techniques, using products that pose the lowest risk to our health and environment.

- Dispose of infested items OR treat in hot (140°) dryer for 20 minutes.
- Remove clutter. Vacuum to remove bed bugs and the debris that provides them with shelter.
- Eliminate shelter by sealing cracks and crevices with a silicone based sealant. Seal around utility conduits.
- Spraying alone is NOT recommended.

RESEARCH NEEDED

- New products
- Repellents
- Cold/heat/steam treatment
- Detection
- Biocontrol –
fungi, nematodes



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

