

Woodworm Control

Help and Information

Understanding the problem

Woodworm is the generic term that refers to the larvae of all wood boring beetles. The problem of woodworm occurs as the wood boring beetles move into their mating season between the months of May to September where they lay their eggs on or in timber and leave their larvae to feed upon the cellulose in the wood. As the larvae feeds, it bores through the wood leaving a network of tunnels, thus damaging and weakening the timber.



Knowing if you have an issue

Any wooden structure, furniture or worktop could be affected by woodworm without you knowing it. Wood can be infected with eggs or larvae without it being noticeable and you may not discover a woodworm infestation for several years. It is a common misconception that woodworm only affects older properties. In fact, it can also cause damage to newly constructed buildings.

*“Look out for woodworm between the months of **May to September**...its their mating season.”*

How to spot a Woodworm issue

Tell tale signs of woodworm include:

- ✓ Small round holes in your woodwork, similar to the holes in a dart board.
- ✓ Fine, powdery dust around these holes (this is known as frass).
- ✓ Crumbly edges to boards and joists.
- ✓ Adult beetles emerging from the holes or present around the house.
- ✓ Even if you can not see any holes, you might also find frass escaping from the back or underside of old furniture. Again this suggests active woodworm.



The woodworm lifecycle



Woodworm
begins breeding.
Eggs laid



Woodworm
larvae hatch



Woodworm
larvae start to
eat and bore



Larvae turns into
a woodworm
beetle

Tips to help prevent a woodworm infestation

To help prevent further woodworm infestation, it is an idea to employ the following woodworm tips:

- ✓ Keep humidity levels low and ensure wood is well ventilated.
- ✓ Remove pieces of furniture or non-structural timber that are woodworm infested to avoid the woodworm spreading.
- ✓ Install electric fly traps in loft spaces and under-ventilated areas to kill emerging adult beetles in the summer months, and thus reduce the threat of infestation.

How to treat woodworm – step 1

Generally, the first step to treating a woodworm issue is to organise a professional survey. A professional surveyor will identify:

- ✓ The type of insect and extent of the woodworm infestation
- ✓ Whether the infestation is active or inactive
- ✓ How much structural damage, if any, has occurred
- ✓ What woodworm treatment is best for your property



Woodworm treatment – step 2

After the survey, the next step is to treat the woodworm. At Wise Property Care, our woodworm treatment techniques are clean and effective using experienced technicians and the latest woodworm insecticides that are:

- ✓ Low odour, low hazard and approved
- ✓ Non flammable
- ✓ Water based micro emulsion insecticides

Put simply, it eliminates woodworm on contact safely



To find out more about woodworm, visit our website and watch our woodworm video. Alternatively, if you suspect your property may require woodworm treatment, call Wise Property Care today on 0800 65 22 678 and speak to our team.