



Bed-Bugs.co.uk

Useful information and professional treatment solutions.

Preface – This document deals with a subject that is not widely acknowledged at present in the entomological, medical or pest control industry. It is based on our extensive observations deal with Bed Bugs and examining home with no signs of Bed Bugs and finding Pscocids or Book lice, we have even had some sent to use as suspected Bed Bug nymphs. Some people have allowed us to test their skin for reactions which has confirmed this theory. Most importantly this issue is as much environmental as it is caused by the insects themselves. Long term solutions are not possible without the removal of the mould spores that the insects fed on, this can only be done by resolving the damp issues in the property. There may be a strong link to Pscocids and Chitin Hypersensitivity.

Booklice or Pscocids

Book lice or Pscocids are small insects of the family Liposcelis which feed on the spores of moulds and fungus.

They do not feed on human and will not bite you. They may however be linked to chitin hypersensitive reactions in some people and may been known to induce “bite like” reactions in people who have previously been exposed to Bed Bug infestations.

Once correctly identified they can easily be treated by a competent pest controller with experience of dealing with such matters. The greatest challenge however is in identifying them. As they are on the edge of human site a detailed inspection is essential to work out all of the affected area.

Although chemical treatment is an option there are other methods available which focus on removing the damp and thus the Pscocids source of food.

Bed Bugs Limited Booklice or Pscocid Information



Close up image showing a Pscocid attempting to hide behind a gap at the top of the skirting board. The fibre visible is a single strand of human hair.



Close up of a booklice immobilised on sticky tape. The curved line to the lower right of the sample is the ridges of a human adult finger print. Pscocids can be easily distinguished from Bed Bugs by the clearly segmented body and position of the legs. They resemble ants more than they do Cimex species.

Bed Bugs Limited Booklice or Psocid Information

There are currently no other web resources we can recommend on this issue other than:

<http://www.kendall-bioresearch.co.uk/psocop.htm> .

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