



# What's Eating Your Collection?

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## Biscuit beetle *Stegobium paniceum*

Adult beetle, also known as the drugstore beetle or bread beetle

Size: 2-4mm

Shape: Oval

Colour: reddish brown

Antennae: medium length, last three segments triangular

Distinguishing features: head not visible from above, wing cases have grooves and are covered in short hairs

Larvae are pests of: materials with a high starch content, such as biscuits, dried plant material, papier mache, books and pet food. They do not eat wood (unlike Furniture beetle).

Damage is: small round exit holes and copious frass.

Adults eat: very little but will bite their way out of food through many materials including aluminium foil, cardboard and leather.

Other info: adults fly when it is warm and are attracted to lights. Not found outside in the UK.

May be confused with Furniture beetle.



## Related Objects



Biscuit beetle larva  
*Stegobium paniceum*



Cigarette beetle  
*Lasioderma serricorne*



Herbarium specimen  
damaged by biscuit  
beetle



Woodworm / Furniture  
beetle *Anobium*  
*punctatum*