



# What's Eating Your Collection?

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## Peruvian Hide beetle *Dermestes peruvianus*

Adult beetle

Size: 10mm or over

Shape: Oval

Colour: Shiny black with gold hairs on underside

Antennae: short, 3 segmented club

Distinguishing features: none

Larvae are pests of: dried animal protein

Damage: occasionally tunnels in wood for pupation

Adults eat: very little

Often found: associated with human food debris in mess rooms and eating areas.

Pest of refuse collection areas of housing blocks. This is largely a city pest.

This species is very difficult to distinguish from *Dermestes haemorrhoidalis*.



## Related Objects



Dermestes larva



Dermestes peruvianus  
larva and cast skins



Hide beetle *Dermestes*  
*haemorrhoidalis*



Hide or leather beetle  
*Dermestes maculatus*



Larder beetle  
*Dermestes lardarius*