



## FACT SHEET

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## COCKROACHES AS A THREAT TO PUBLIC HEALTH

### Cockroaches as a Health Threat

- Cockroaches are reported to spread at least 33 kinds of bacteria, six kinds of parasitic worms, and at least seven other human pathogens.
- Cockroaches are the second most common cause of allergies.
- According to the National Institute of Health's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, cockroach allergens cause the greatest health problems for asthmatic children.
- Cockroach droppings, secretions, cast skins, and dead bodies are the main supply of allergens attributable to cockroaches.
- Studies also show that high exposure to cockroaches also seem to boost a child's risk of developing asthma in the first place, by creating the allergy that eventually leads to asthma.
- In very large infestations, cockroaches have been observed to feed on sleeping people's sores, hair, eyelashes, eyebrows, fingernails and toenails.

### About Cockroaches

- There are more than 4,000 species of cockroaches. At least 69 species can be found in the United States, but only about 22 species cause pest problems in homes or businesses.
- German, American, Brown-Banded, and Oriental cockroaches are the most common cockroach pest species in the United States.
- Cockroaches reproduce rapidly; there can be more than 10,000 descendants from a single female German cockroach in one year.

### What is Phantom® termiticide-insecticide?

- Undetectable technology: **Phantom** is an undetectable, non-repellent material applied by trained pest professionals. It has a virtually- odorless formulation with a long residual.
- Cutting-edge chemistry: pests cannot smell, taste, or avoid **Phantom**, so pests unknowingly contact and ingest it during routine activities.



### **Phantom® termiticide-insecticide for Cockroach Control**

- Performance studies have shown **Phantom** as an effective treatment for a number of cockroach species including American, Asian, Brown-banded, Oriental, smoky brown, and German cockroaches.
- **Phantom** is labeled for interior general pest control, and limited exterior application at pest entry points such as doors, window, eaves, attic vents, and penetrations in exterior walls where utilities enter.
- **Phantom** attacks cockroaches from inside their own bodies by preventing their cells from generating energy, leading to paralysis and death. Pests go about their regular routines for a short time before dying.

*Phantom® is a registered trademark of BASF. Always read and follow label directions.*

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