

## ACES Factsheet: **DIY SILVERFISH TREATMENT**



Silverfish are insects from the order Thysanura.

### **WHAT ARE SILVERFISH?**

Silverfish are cone shaped insects that are about 10 mm long. At the end of their body they have three distinct tail like appendages. They are silver in colour. Mostly active at night they prefer areas with higher humidity. They feed on food rich in carbohydrates. In particular they eat the paste in book bindings, along with paper and also fabrics. They have also been known to eat mould.

### **WHY DO I HAVE THEM?**

Silverfish come into a house or business looking for warmth and food. Once they are established they can be difficult to remove.

### **SHOULD I BE CONCERNED?**

Silverfish do not bite or sting. They damage books, paper and they can contaminate food. They have also been known to damage fabrics such as chair coverings.

Damage from Silverfish infestations can be significant in terms of cost to a home or business.

### **DIY SILVERFISH PEST CONTROL\***

1. Inspection. Inspect areas where there are books, cardboard and fabrics. Inspect ceiling spaces and sub floor areas. Inspect behind furniture e.g. behind bedhead, around lower skirtings where there is carpet and the lower skirtings of wardrobes
2. Choose your DIY spray. Spray areas infested with silverfish. Important to cover all floor surfaces. Consider treating ceiling spaces and sub floor areas if they are infested.

### **\*PLEASE NOTE:**

(1) always wear protective gear when handling chemicals. The minimum protective gear is a mask, eye wear and gloves.

(2) if the silver fish return you may need a professional treatment, as successful treatments of silverfish sometimes require restricted products such as IGRs ( insect growth regulators)

**These factsheets are only provided as a guide only. ACES are not responsible for any actions taken as a result of reading this factsheet. If you are unsure - consult a professional.**