

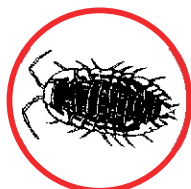
WOODLICE

(*slaters*)

Pest Control Factsheet 2

WOODLICE

- Woodlice (Slaters) are the only crustaceans that have completely adapted to spend their whole life cycle on land.
- They are less than 20mm ($\frac{3}{4}$ inch) long.
- Their bodies, usually grey in colour, are composed of seven hard overlapping "plates" with seven pairs of legs.
- In our climate they only breed in summer and may produce up to 200 young per year
- Woodlice moult and hence grow all their lives; occasionally long lived individuals of very large size may be seen.
- They can live for up to 4 years but most young woodlice do not reach maturity.
- Woodlice normally feed on decaying vegetable matter.
- Woodlice avoid light and are most active at night.
- They thrive in moist locations and are commonly found under objects on damp ground as well as under vegetable debris of all kinds.



20mm 10mm

PUBLIC HEALTH SIGNIFICANCE

Minimal Significant

NON CHEMICAL CONTROL

- Leaves, grass clippings, mulch, boards, stones and similar materials close to the building should be removed, since these may harbour woodlice.
- Properly ventilate basements and subfloor areas to eliminate excess moisture.
- Repair and seal cracks and openings in foundation walls, around doors and around basement windows.
- Drain standing water and moist areas near potential points of entry.
- Indoors these creatures can be collected with a broom and dustpan or vacuum cleaner and discarded.



ABERDEEN
CITY COUNCIL

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT-

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