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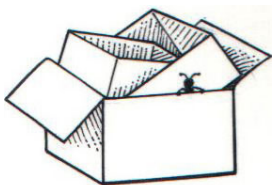
DEBIT & CREDIT

WINTER 2022/23

Pest Patrol News

Pests Easily Hitch a Ride

Many pests through the ages have become very successful at hitching rides with us wherever we go. In fact, most of our worst pests are not native to this country, but have been accidentally brought here from all over the world. Pests today are just as adept at hitching rides with us while on everyday shopping trips, on vacation and business trips, as well as when we move into a home or apartment.



Cockroaches and **bed bugs** are among these easily transported pests. Both of these pests are commonly

transported to your home from infested restaurants and other public places where people sit, plus motels, moving vans, and used furniture stores. Cockroaches and their egg cases also are easily carried around in boxes and bags.

Pantry moths and **flour beetles** are often brought home from the grocery store hidden in bags and boxes of food. They also hide in everything from toys filled with beans, to spices and tobacco products. **Silverfish** are easily moved around in cardboard boxes and used

items.

Entire **ant nests** can be hidden inside the soil of potted plants. **Clothes moths** and **carpet beetles** are often hidden in woolen rugs and other items made of animal origin such as leather, fur, and silk. And our pets pick up **fleas** and **ticks** wherever they go and then carry them into our homes.

The fact that so many pests are so commonly being carried around is another important reason why our *regular* professional pest services are so important.

Protecting What is Precious

Did you know that as recently as 1935, when this country had a much smaller population, **4,000 Americans were dying every year from malaria?**

In fact, modern professional pest control has greatly improved the quality of our daily lives *in so many ways*. Because of it, many pest-transmitted diseases have been greatly reduced in this country. We live longer and healthier lives, without fear of sometimes deadly diseases like malaria, yellow fever, louse-borne typhus, and many others.



Yet there are other pest-transmitted diseases that we all need to vigilantly watch for. Tick borne diseases are flourishing, and there are deadly pest-transmitted diseases like hantavirus, encephalitis, and plague, plus pest-spread germs that cause everyday illnesses, like common food poisoning.

Of course, those nasty blood-sucking

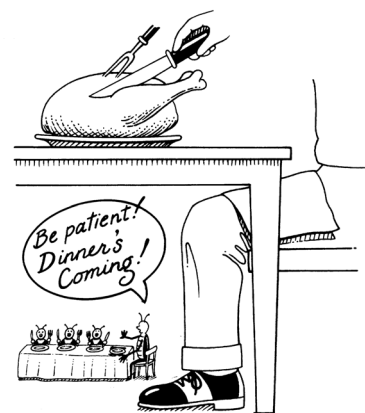
bed bugs, which people for decades knew only through nursery rhymes, have come back with a vengeance. Cockroaches cause many people to suffer from allergies, and rats still bite about 45,000 people annually—often children and babies. Stinging and biting pests like fleas, ticks, wasps, and spiders inflict harm on even more people and pets when they are not controlled on a regular basis.

Because of professional pest control services, we are able to better protect your valuable homes and property from pests. Termites, carpenter ants, and other wood-destroyers left uncontrolled can severely damage a building. Still other pests damage and spoil stored food, fabrics, and other household items.

Ongoing professional pest control greatly improves the quality of our daily lives!

Thank You!

To both our new and long-time customers we say "THANK YOU" for your valued business and many referrals! We wish you MERRY CHRISTMAS, plus PEACE, HAPPINESS, PROSPERITY and especially GOOD HEALTH this new year!



"This is the best home we've picked to winter in yet!"

A Fond Farewell from Dr. Moore!



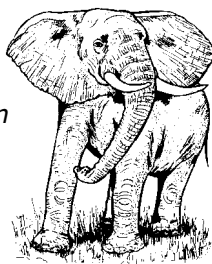
This will be the **last newsletter** produced by Dr. Wayne Moore. He has written and produced the newsletter for 34 years, and finds it is time to move on to other things.

Dr. Moore says, "I have really enjoyed researching and writing this newsletter for you all, and hope you have enjoyed reading it as much as I liked putting together all this news and useful and fascinating information!"

"I've also worked hard to give you *reliable* information. As someone with a Ph.D. in Entomology, I have seen many, many times when pest control information on the internet has been misleading or just plain wrong. Don't always believe what you read or hear, but trust the company who brought you this newsletter to give you reliable information! Thank you for reading these newsletters, and for all the encouraging feedback you've given me over the years."

Ants are Mightier than Elephants

Here's a case where tiny insects change the behavior of animals about a *billion times* more massive than they are. Researchers discovered that African elephants don't eat foliage of trees that have ants on them—they will even avoid their favorite tree species. Elephants avoid any trees with ants because the angry ants crawl up inside the elephant's sensitive trunks and sting them.



These same stinging ants have no effect on tree-feeding giraffes, because giraffes use their long tongues to swipe the ants away from their short snouts.

Ancient Lice Comb Discovered



A 3,700 year old lice comb has been discovered in Israel. What makes this discovery so notable is that it has written on it *the oldest full sentence known using an alphabet*. It uses an early language of the ancient Canaanites.

The sentence says, "**May this tusk root out the lice of the hair and the beard.**"

There are other full sentences that have been discovered that were written before that, but they were written with symbols, such as in Egypt and Mesopotamia. The Canaanite written language with its alphabet was the basis for ancient Greek and Latin, and in turn many modern European languages.

The comb has many fine, worn down teeth used to remove lice and their eggs. Surprisingly, the ancient remains of a louse was found still between the teeth! The fact that the comb was made of imported ivory from elephants, and the sentence mentions a beard, suggests it belonged to an elite man.

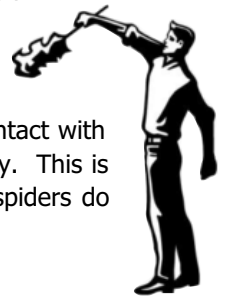
The lead researcher observed, "Throughout human history lice have been a perennial problem. And this inscription nicely reveals that even the rich and famous in ancient times were not exempt from such problems."

Spider Web Discoveries

Recent research at Oxford University shows that spider webs are not as passive as we have always thought at catching prey. The threads of spider webs are actually coated with electrically conductive glue that *causes the web to pull closer to* and 'grab' electrically charged particles, including airborne particles, droplets, and even insects.

This actually boosts a web's effectiveness at catching passing insects. *It may also explain how strands of spider webbing so quickly get dusty in homes*—they apparently pull in dust and other air-borne particles that then get stuck on the sticky strands, resulting in those ugly, dust-covered strands.

Other new research in Brazil has documented that *certain kinds of orb-weaving spiders coat their webs with neurotoxins* that partially paralyze prey that come into contact with them. It makes their webs more effective in catching prey. This is a new development, and it is possible that some of our spiders do the same.



What's the biggest ant? A Gi-ant!



A giant ant, big enough to use in a science fiction movie, was found fossilized in rock that is about 50 million years old. The ant was a queen that was an amazing two inches long—really dinosaur-sized for an ant.

Discovered in Wyoming, this is the largest ant ever found in the Western Hemisphere.

Note: there never has been people-sized ants, except in science fiction. Two inches is huge for an ant, even in pre-historic times!