



# LODGING FACT SHEET

Kansas Department of Agriculture • Division of Food Safety and Lodging  
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## Bed Bug Control

Bed bugs are found all over the world and are constantly being dispersed via used furniture, luggage and bedding. In the last decade, there has been a significant increase in the number of bed bug infestations reported in homes, hotels, apartments and cruise ships. Since 2005, there has been an increase in bed bugs reported in lodging establishments in Kansas.

### Bed Bug Health Risks

- Bed bugs feed by piercing the skin with an elongated beak through which they withdraw blood, causing itching and inflammation, the severity of which depends on the person;
- Bed bugs are spread to other facilities by guests, and can be spread throughout your facility by guests and staff.



*Nymph bed bug.*



*Adult bed bug.*

### How to Identify Bed Bugs

- Bed bugs are wingless, oval and flat, and they crawl at a steady rate;
- Immature bed bugs, called nymphs, are light yellow or tan;
- Adults are brown or reddish brown;
- Adults measure one-eighth of an inch and can be seen by the naked eye.

### Where to Look for Bed Bugs

Bed bugs are active mainly at night. During the day they prefer to hide close to where people sleep.

Their flattened bodies allow them to fit into tiny crevices, especially those associated with mattresses, box springs, bed frames and headboards. If bed bugs are present, these areas may be marked by dark spotting and staining, which is dried bed bug excrement.



*Adult bed bug in mattress ticking.*

Persistence and a bright flashlight are needed to determine whether bed bugs are present and whether they have been fully eradicated. The challenge is to find and treat all places where bugs and eggs may be present. Bed bugs tend to congregate in certain areas, but it is common to find an individual or some eggs scattered throughout a room.

### What to Do If You See Bed Bugs

- Kansas lodging regulations require you to report the presence of bed bugs or evidence of bed bugs to the Kansas Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Lodging program at (785) 296-5600;
- Contact a licensed pest control operator to treat for bed bugs;
- You may not rent guest rooms that are infested until the infestation is eliminated and the Food Safety and Lodging program has conducted a follow-up inspection to verify that the bed bugs have been eliminated.