

If you know what to do,  
you can avoid most  
pest problems  
in your home.

## Follow these steps:

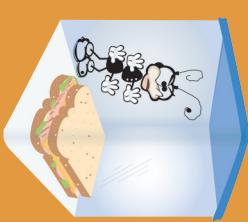
Identify and monitor  
the pest.



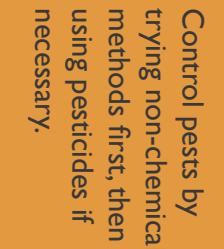
Sanitize and keep  
your home clean.



Exclude pests by sealing  
entry points.



Control pests by  
trying non-chemical  
methods first, then  
using pesticides if  
necessary.



## Other pests in the ISEC Home Pest Management series:

Ants

Carpenter Ants  
Cockroaches  
Fleas

Scorpions  
Silverfish

Small Flies  
Small Mammals  
Spiders



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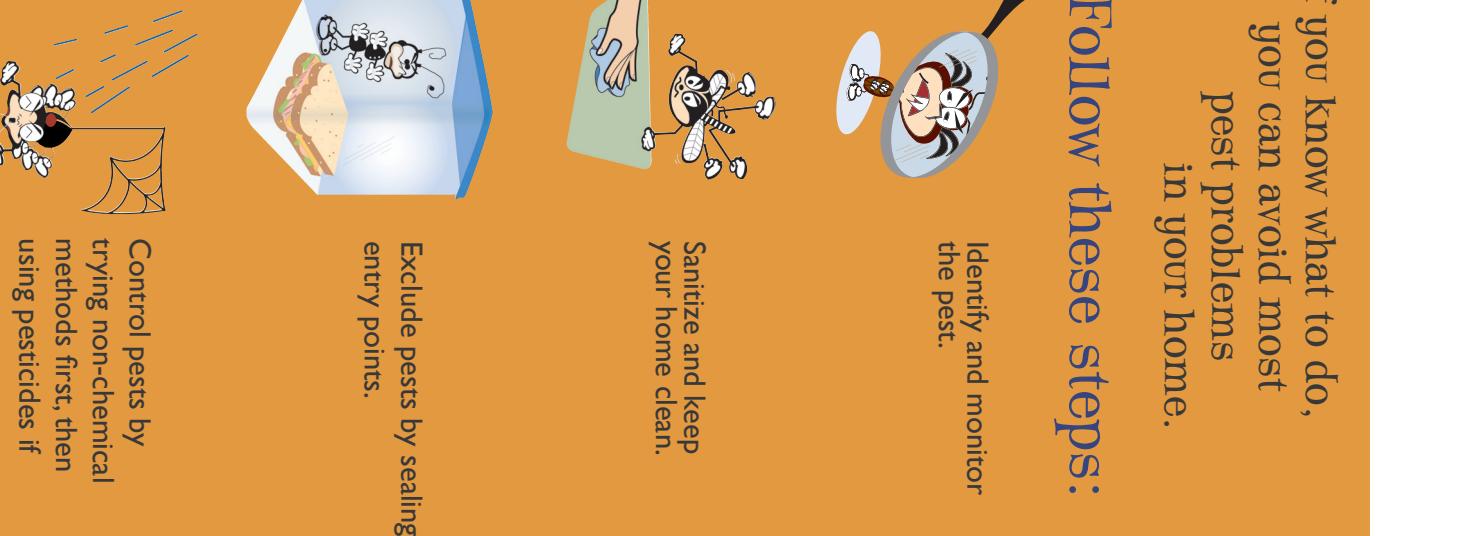
Extension publications can be found on the Web at:

<http://texbookstore.org>

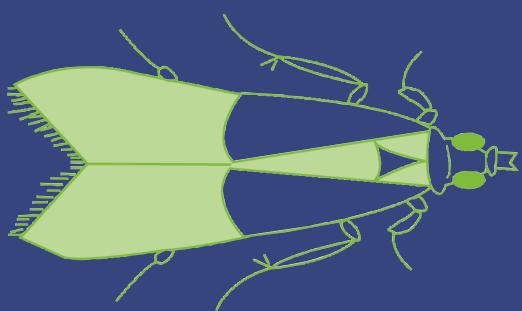
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# Pantry Pests



Texas Cooperative  
EXTENSION  
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# If pantry pests are a problem in your home...

## Sanitize:

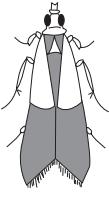
### If you have a problem:

- Throw out all insect-infested food.

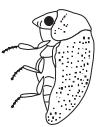


## Identify:

- Pantry pests come in a variety of colors, shapes and sizes. They are not always found in the pantry but may also be in other areas of the home.



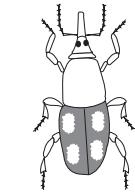
3/8 inch



1/10 inch

### Indian meal moth

### Cigarette beetle



1/8 inch



### Rice weevil

### Saw tooth grain beetle



1/8 inch

- After the pantry is clean, keep it clean.
- Clean containers before refilling them with new food.
- Use caulk to seal cracks around shelves where food debris may collect.
- Vacuum food particles from cracks and crevices.



## Control:



- Kill pantry pests in dry foods by freezing the foods for 7 days or heating them to 140 degrees F for 90 minutes or longer.
- Before you buy or use any pesticide, read the label carefully. Be sure the product is labeled for the site and the insect you will treat.
- After removing all food from the pantry, apply the pesticide to the cracks and crevices in and around your pantry. Allow pesticide to dry before returning food to the pantry.

## Exclude:

- Inspect food items for insects before purchasing.

- Do not buy food items that are damaged or open.

- Inspect your pantry every week until no more pests are found. Then follow the steps below.
- Buy dried foods in quantities that will be used within 2 to 4 months.

### To avoid a problem:

- Clean shelves and bins.

- If pantry pests remain a problem, hire a professional pest control service.