

Common Herbarium Pests & Visitors

⚠ DANGER! High Risk ⚠

Please notify herbarium staff if you see any of the following:



Drugstore Beetle (*Stegobium paniceum*)

Similar to cigarette beetle but appears relatively less stout and has deep pitted lines on elytra. Antennae with three elongated segments at end.

2 – 3 mm long.

Odd Beetle (*Thylodrias contractus*)

Larva: Dense tuft of hairs, often curls into a ball. Adult (Female): Larviform, wingless. Larger than male. Adult (Male): Elytra do not close all the way, revealing abdomen.

EXTREME CONCERN: Larvae are long lived (242-388 days) and may undergo retrogressive molting in stressful situations.



Cigarette Beetle (*Lasioderma serricorne*)

Head can't be seen from above. Small, stout. Covered with tiny hairs but appears shiny overall. Saw-like antennae. 2 – 3 mm long.

Larvae are white with a tan head and may curl into a C-shape.

EXTREME CONCERN:
History of damage by cigarette beetles at NY in Clusiaceae and Salicaceae



Moderate Risk

Spider Beetle (*Gibbium aequinoctiale*)

Shiny, hump-shaped elytra. Reddish-brown.

1.5 – 3.5 mm long.



Silverfish (*Lapisma saccharina*)

Long, flattened, silver bodies with three prongs at end. Nymphs look the same as adults, but smaller.

Up to 15 mm long.



Carpet Beetles

(Family Dermestidae)
Elongated larvae, often with long tufts of hairs. Adults 2–6 mm long depending on species, varies in color. Black to multicolored.



Low Risk

Dienerella sp.

Deep pits all over body. Very small, (1 – 2 mm). Thorax and head noticeably thinner than abdomen from above.



Booklice (Psocids)

Soft-bodied, conspicuous chewing mouth parts. Commonly wingless, though may be seen with wings (barklice).

1 – 2 mm long.

Red Mites (Arachnids)

May appear near-opaque light red/brown to dark red/brown.



8 legs. 0.5 to 1 mm long.

House centipede (*Scutigera coleoptera*)

Body size ~ 1 inch long but may appear 3 – 4 inches including antennae and legs.



Body tannish-yellow with longitudinal, dark stripes. Legs banded.

Predator to other pests

For more information visit
museumpests.net

NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

Silverfish damage to label