

# A Bug's Life Beetles in New Construction

## Fun facts

- Found in new construction homes in late summer and/or fall, after house has been sealed up
- Feed on molds and fungi growing in damp and hidden areas (attic)
- Numbers build up in wall voids and beetles enter living space
- Found clustering near ceilings on upper floors and bathrooms

## Identification

Small beetles less than 1/8" long, found on walls, strong fliers

Foreign grain beetle: 1/12" Reddish-brown color, projections behind eye

Hairy fungus beetle: 1/10" Black with brown pattern, oval-shaped body, fine hair on wing covers, attracted to light

Plaster beetle: 1/16" long, reddish-brown color, square-shaped thorax

## Management

- Chemical treatment not needed; beetles cause no damage or harm
- Remove beetles with vacuum cleaner or sweep them up
- This is a temporary problem as the building will dry out and beetles will die
- Increase air circulation and ventilation and use dehumidifier



**Foreign grain beetle**  
Family: Silvanidae



**Hairy fungus beetle**  
Family: Mycetophagidae



**Plaster beetle**  
Family: Latridiidae

Photos: J. Green