

***Dermestes maculatus*, the Hide beetle**



Primary pest of animal materials particularly dried fish, fish meal, bones, hides & high protein plant materials (e.g. copra). Adult with basal half of elytra having band of pale-brown hairs, in the middle of which are patches of black hairs; Other half of elytra black. Adults feed, long-lived and fly readily. About 200-850 eggs are laid. Shortest development period recorded at 18-20°C, 80% r.h. When mature larvae bore into wood, plaster or even soft metal (lead) to make a chamber in which they pupate