

Insect Identification Service

Customer complaints relating to contamination of food products by insect pests, or bits of them, are common. Many of these complaints are genuine, but many are not. Expert analysis of such samples can often provide an indication, sometimes with 100% certainty, as to nature and likely source of the contamination.

Our identification service is provided in collaboration with Clive Boase, a highly experienced entomologist specialising in the pest management sector, and a Fellow of the Royal Entomological Society.

If the sample can be identified within one hour our fee for this service is £90 + VAT. If a more comprehensive 'customised' report and analysis is required, perhaps including expert opinion on origins, causation, etc. then this will be charged at an hourly rate of £125.00 + VAT.

Samples should be sent to:

Clive Boase
The Pest Management Consultancy
Cowslip Pightle
Hazel Stub
Haverhill
Suffolk
CB9 9AF

Please indicate clearly that the identification is being done through Acheta.

Important note: Specimens may sometimes be identified through photographs alone. Where the specimen itself is available please submit this in a crushproof container with a securely sealed lid, and padding to minimise movement of the specimen within the container. Please also ensure that the specimen is dead before posting!

Information concerning context (ie. found in a bag of potato crisps in the UK', 'several crawled out of some recently imported cane furniture', 'lots around external lights at a pharmaceutical plant in Italy') is also useful in facilitating speedy identification.

Identifications are typically turned around in 2-3 days. However, if identification is urgent then please advise us BEFORE sending the specimen.

For further information on our identification service, contact John Simmons
john.simmons@acheta.co.uk 07855-944049