

CHAPTER 6



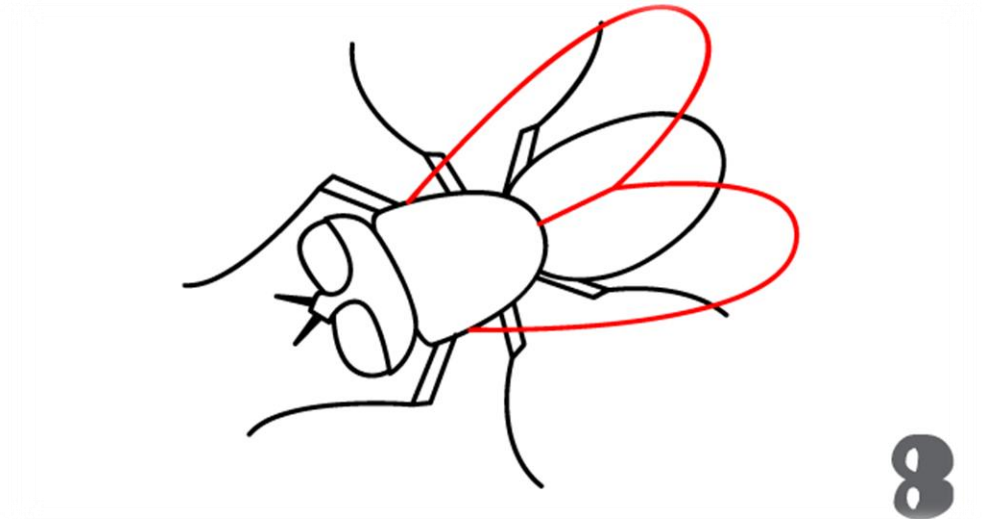
INSECT PESTS OF HOUSEHOLD

HOUSE FLY



Taxonomy

- *T.N:* *Musca domestica*
- *Family:* Muscidae
- *Order:* Diptera

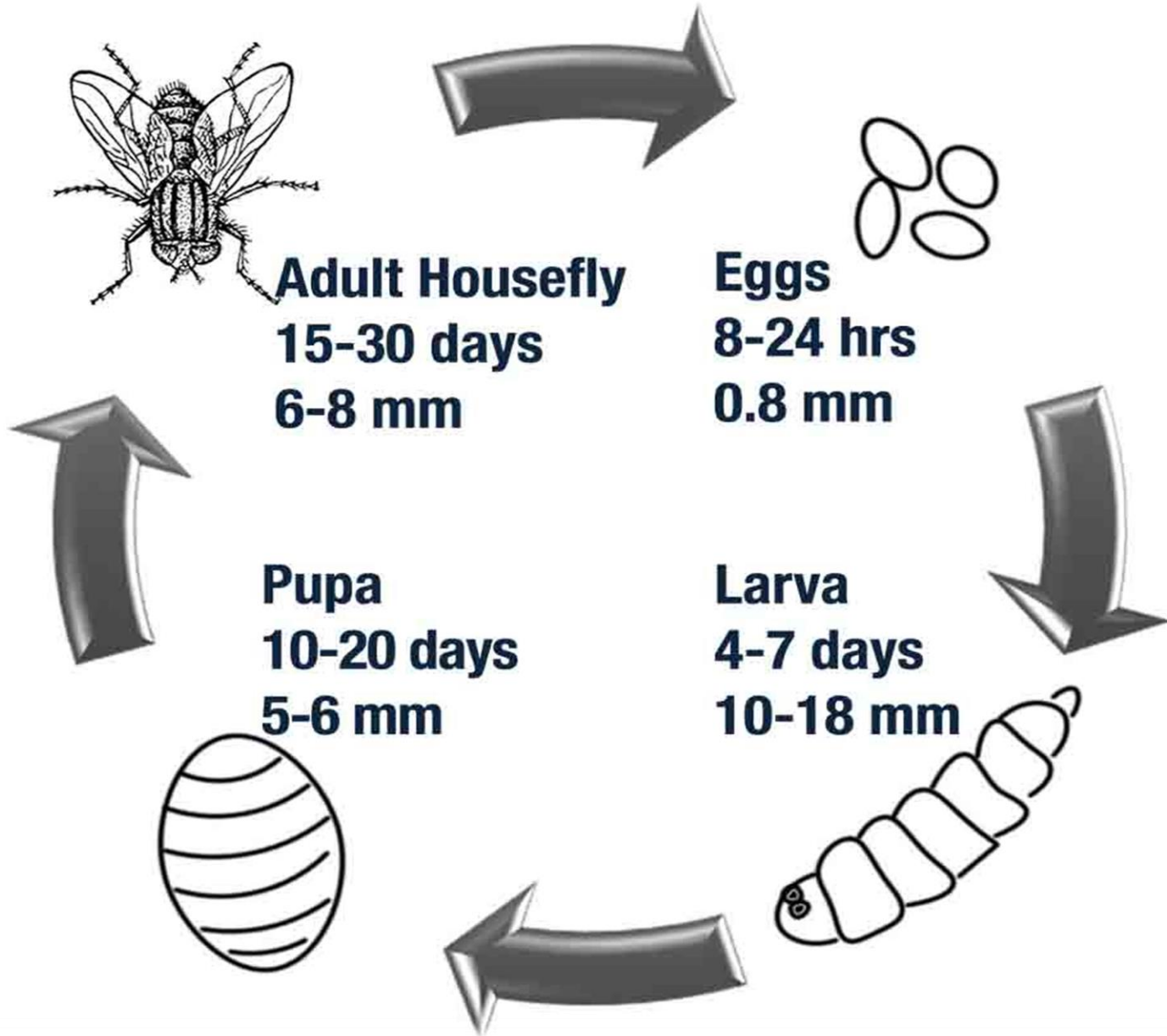


Identification

- Eggs are **elongate** and **whitish**
- **Maggots** are **creamy white**
- **Adult** housefly is of **dull color** with **pale grey wings**
- **Aristate antenna**



Life Cycle of a Housefly



Life Cycle

- Adult females lay eggs in **cluster** in heaps of **manure** or **feces**
- The maggots **feed upon decaying matter**, crawl to the margins of the breeding material and pupate in brown and barrel shaped puparium
- There are **10-12 generations** in one summer

Damage

- The greatest damage done by flies is the **contamination of food**
- Resulting in the **transmission** of important **infectious disease** to human beings such as **fever, cholera, tuberculosis**
- Parasitic disease to certain **mammals** and **birds** of agricultural importance

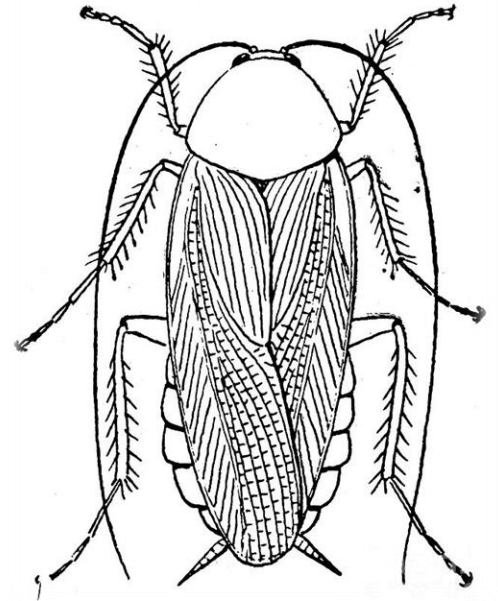


AMERICAN COCKROACH



Taxonomy

- *T.N:* *Periplaneta americana*
- *Family:* Blattidae
- *Order:* Dictyoptera

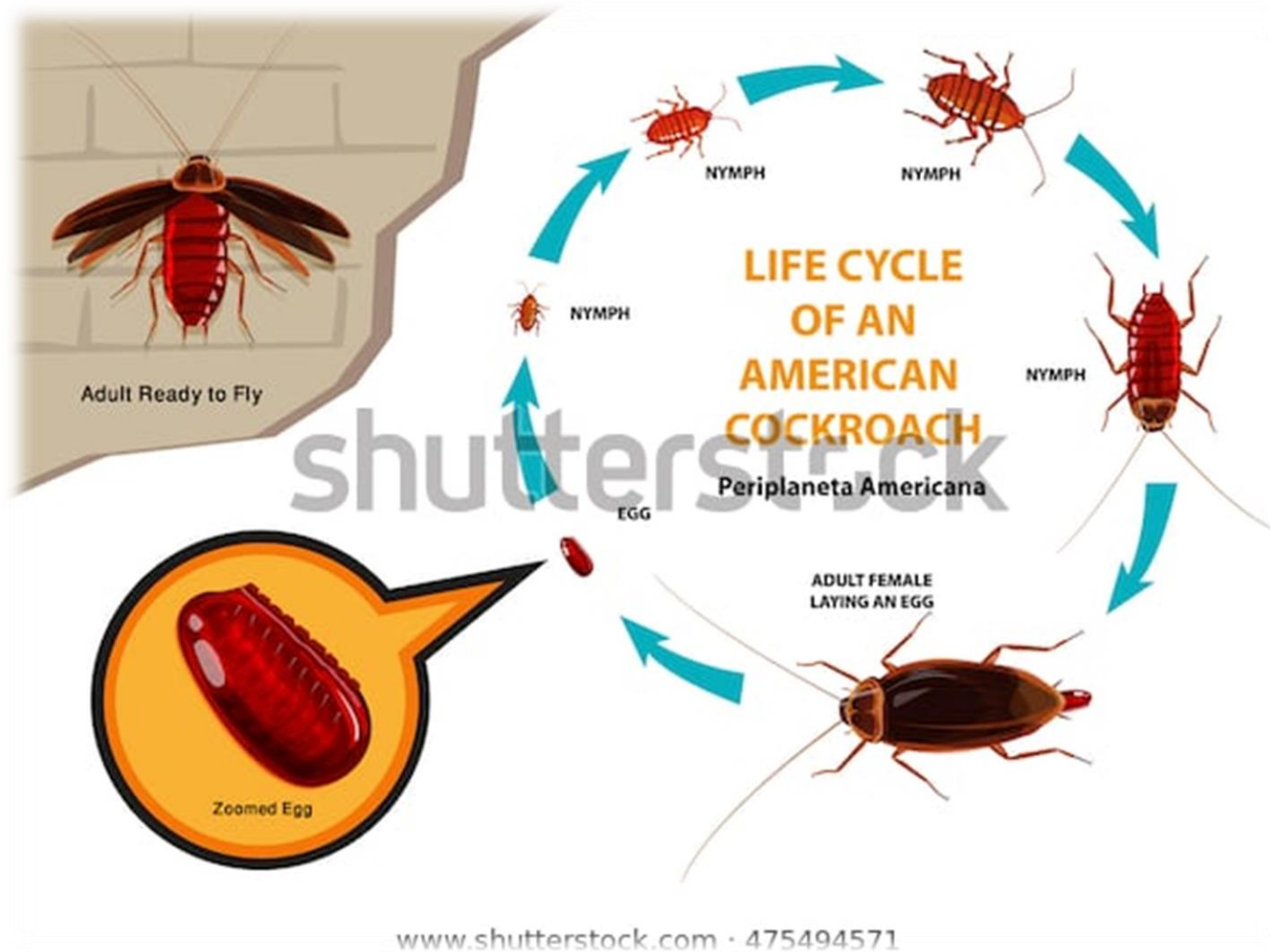


Identification

- **Egg capsule** is **bean shaped** and **dark brown** or **black** in colour
- **Nymphs** are **small** and **wingless**
- **Adult** is of **reddish brown** in color with **flattened body** and **setaceous antennae**



Life Cycle



Life Cycle

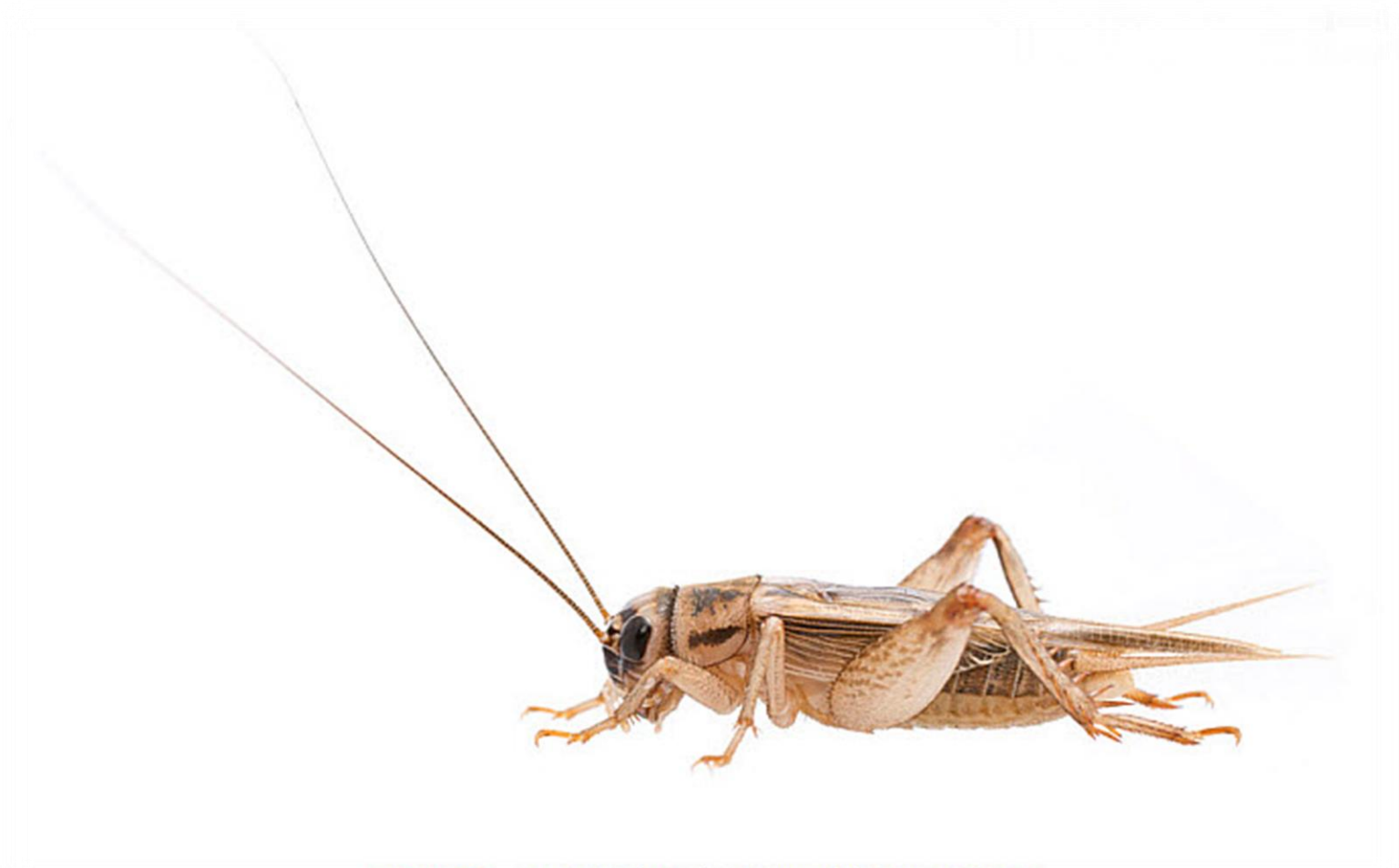
- The female lay egg in a **dark brown bean shaped capsule**
- The **nymphs resemble the adult** but are **smaller** and **lighter in color**
- Nymphs **moult 13 times** to become adults
- The adults are **long lived**
- There are **several generations** in a year

Damage

- The **sugary** and **starchy substance** in the houses are damaged by cockroaches by their **excreta** and **offensive smell** does not go even after cooking
- They also **feed** upon **old dump books** and **leather articles**
- These insects are **common** in **old buildings, unclean kitchens** and **restaurants** and their **filthy places**
- These are also important **vectors of diseases** to human beings such as **asthma, cholera** and **dysentery**



HOUSE CRICKET



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Taxonomy

- *T.N:* *Acheta domestica*
- *Family:* Gryllidae
- *Order:* Orthoptera

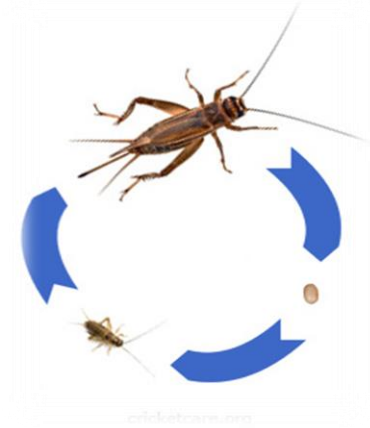


Identification

- Eggs are **yellowish** in colour
- Nymphs are **small** and **wingless**
- Adults are **yellowish brown** or **straw colored** with **long antennae** and **stout hind legs** which are used for **jumping**



Life Cycle



- It is **active throughout the year**
- Its female **lays eggs in batches** in the soil, crevices and dark moist corners inside houses
- After hatching nymphs emerge which resemble the adult but they are smaller or wingless
- The crickets are solitary **nocturnal insects** and **hide during the day time** under boxes, behind books, curtains or pictures
- There is only **one generation in a year**

Damage

- At home these insects are **chiefly a nuisance**
- They also **eat food** and **cloths**



Control of Household Insects



- **Screening** of door and windows
- **Proper cleanliness** should be done to prevent their damage
- Use **poison baits** and **sticky paper strips** to attract and kill a large number of flies
- Properly **dispose the garbage**, manures, food waste, human excrement, sewage, dead animals and other organic materials
- Spray with 2% **Malathion** or 0.5% **Trichlorphos** is effective against these insects