

won't kill bedbugs and can actually cause them to spread as they seek new harborage. In fact, Potter and University of Kentucky researchers are starting to find bedbugs that are resistant to the pesticides commonly used to kill them.

In laboratory tests these "super bedbugs" have survived commercial pesticides at more than 10 times the recommended dose. Researchers sprayed laboratory bedbugs and bugs from four different apartment colonies with pyrethoid insecticides, the most common professional insecticide used to kill bedbugs. When sprayed, the laboratory bedbugs—which had never been exposed to the insecticide—were decimated completely; among the apartment bedbug populations however, there were few mortalities. In fact, those insects were immune to sprays that were two to three hundred times the recommended dosage prescribed by the insecticide manufacturer.

Say Freeze!

Complicating matters, people often have trouble enduring pesticide treatments and the residues they leave. A revolutionary new bedbug eradication treatment called Cryonite provides a safer solution. Popular in Europe and Australia but only recently introduced in the United States, Cryonite does not use chemicals or leave noxious or poisonous residues. It's a completely "green" solution to killing bedbugs that's safe for people with sensitive skin, allergies, asthma, medical conditions, babies, young children, the elderly, even pets. The treatment is applied dry, and leaves no liquid residue, allowing for immediate use of the home or building after treatment.

Cryonite uses pressurized, freezing-cold carbon dioxide (CO₂) vapor, which seeps into cracks, crevices and

other hiding places to kill bedbugs, cockroaches and most other insects in every stage of their development. As the thin layers of pressurized CO₂ "snow" hit surfaces, they vaporize, causing extreme, instantaneous cooling of any organism with which the gas comes in contact. In effect, it freezes the cells of insects, crystallizing the water in their cells on contact. The insect is instantly immobilized and it takes only moments for death to occur.

Encasements are another important weapon in the property owner's bedbug eradication arsenal. Encasements protect your investment in mattresses and box springs from bedbugs. If bedbugs occur, they can't get through the encasement to infest mattresses and box springs. If bedbugs are already evident, they and their eggs are trapped inside the encasements where they eventually suffocate and die. Bedbug-proof encasements are made with breathable materials that are impervious to bedbug bites but guarantee a comfortable night's sleep. Specially designed seams and zippers keep bugs from crawling in or out. Encasements are meant to remain on your mattress and box springs for as long as you own them, forever protecting your investment from bed bug infiltration.

Bedbugs may not be dangerous, but they definitely are gross—the best strategy is to avoid getting them, but if you're not so lucky, the next best thing is to have an aggressive plan of attack to rid your home of these pesky pests. ■

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