

In the News:

Cimex lectularius “Bedbugs”

“Goodnight, sleep tight, don’t let the bedbugs bite”



The United States is not the only country currently seeing an upsurge in these tiny blood sucking creatures. According to Michael Potter, an entomology professor at the University of Kentucky, this is currently a worldwide phenomenon.

Example of Bed Bug bites



Bedbugs are more common in crowded lodgings such as hotels, apartment complexes, college dormitories, shelters, hospitals, or any location which

yields high turnover in occupancy rates. However, recently the Wall Street Journal reports temporary closures of popular department stores in New York, Victoria's Secret and Abercrombie and Fitch.



So what are these daunting creatures and why are they seemingly gathering their troops and invading our homes, beds, closets, and possibly our department stores?

The common bedbug, *Cimex lectularius*, has been sucking human blood since ancient times, according to the University Of Kentucky School Of Agriculture. Brown in color and about the size of an apple seed, the bugs hide during the day and come out at night, piercing the skin of their hosts and drinking their fill.

The bites don't spread diseases but do leave some people with red, itchy welts - which are sometimes mistaken for mosquito bites. View the full article, *Bedbugs: How to Counter Their Comeback* at the hyperlink below:

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2010/08/19/earlyshow/health/main6786851.shtml>

Mayo clinic provides an article with fact sheet below.

<http://www.mayoclinic.com/health/bedbugs/DS00663/DSECTION=causes>