

FLORIDA WOODS ROACH

This roach is often called the "stinking cockroach" because of the foul-smelling fluid it produces to protect itself from predators. It is also known as the Palmetto Bug. It is dark reddish-brown to black, 1-2 inches in length, and commonly found in leaf mulch, woodpiles, and under rotting logs. The Florida woods roach lives in the bark of dead pine stumps, in tree cavities, and under palmetto leaves on the ground. Houses with wood shingles and shade trees will support large populations of this species. Outdoor cockroaches serve as a major food source for many forms of wildlife and play an important role in nutrient recycling by eating decomposing matter. Florida woods roaches do not thrive and reproduce inside homes since they require a consistently moist environment similar to their natural habitats. Indoors, their presence is strictly a temporary annoyance. They do not harm the house structure, furnishings or occupants.



IMMATURE FLORIDA WOODS COCKROACH
SIZE |—————|
Up to 2 inches

Information from

Alabama extension at

<http://www.aces.edu/department/extcomm/publications/anr/anr-1016/pdf/ANR-1016.pdf>

Iowa State

<http://www.ent.iastate.edu/ipm/iin/woodcoc.html>