

Novel Appliances for Bed Bug Work: Efficacy and Usability

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Small instar bed bugs often hide in the cast skins of their older siblings. In fact, if you visit an infested apartment, you can pick up a group of shed bed bug skins and have first and second instars crawl out onto your hand. Recent research has documented that “reduced cuticular penetration” type resistance is known in bed bug populations. This resistance suggests that simply spraying insecticide over cast skins allows small instars (hiding inside) to survive your application. This presentation will discuss why the use of vacuums for removing bed bug cast skins is so important. We will also discuss the most effective uses of different vacuum devices in a bed bug management program.