

APPENDIX 4: FISH MOTHS

MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL FISH MOTHS

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Fish moths hide during the day, but are active at night looking for food and water. They eat cereals, moist wheat flour, books, paper on which there is glue or paste, wall paper, book bindings and starch in clothing. They can live for several months without food. Fish moths live and develop in damp cool places particularly in basements and laundry rooms.

2. MECHANICAL CONTROL

Keep laundry rooms and bathrooms clean and dry. Plug or putty holes or spaces around pipes. Clean out closets periodically. Collections of magazines, papers and books must be moved around in bookcases occasionally. Keep food in containers with tight lids.

3. CHEMICAL CONTROL

Fish moths can be controlled using the same chemicals used to control cockroaches. A properly and thoroughly applied insecticide will show results in a few weeks. Large populations of fish moths cannot be controlled unless their water sources are eliminated. Chemical control advised for cockroaches will also work on fish moths, with no additional pesticides are necessary.

4. IMPORTANT NOTE ON THE CONTROL OF FISH MOTHS

Moth Balls containing *naphthalene* is toxic to humans and wildlife and is prohibited for use in the park.