



# What's Eating Your Collection?

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## Australian carpet beetle larvae *Anthrenocerus australis*

Larvae

Size: 0.5mm when first hatched to 5mm full grown

Shape: Oval, tapering at the rear end

Colour: Brown with dark bands of hair

Antennae: Not visible

Distinguishing features: Hairy, banded appearance with a slender brush of dark hairs at the rear end.

Empty cast skins or moults are often found.

Very similar to the larvae of *Anthrenus* and apart from the slender brush at the back, they are very difficult to tell apart. They are very active and quick moving.

Larvae are pests of: Wool, fur, feathers, animal glue

These are common in Australia but rare in the UK.



## Related Objects



Museum nuisance larva  
*Reesa vespulae*



*Trogoderma angustum*  
larvae and cast skin