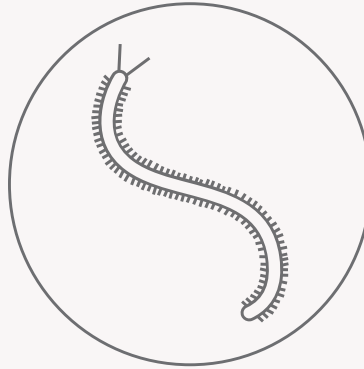


MILLIPEDES



MILLIPEDES

Color: Blackish or brownish, some red, orange or with mottled patterns

Shape: Long, cylindrical and wormlike

Size: 1/16 – 4 1/2 inches

Region: Found throughout U.S.

Habits

Most millipedes are nocturnal and are primarily scavengers, feeding on decaying plants and occasionally dead insects. In the autumn, millipedes are known to migrate in great numbers.

Threats

Some millipede species give off an ill-smelling fluid through openings along the sides of the body. Underscoring the importance of millipede control, this fluid can be toxic to small animals and pets, and can cause small blisters on humans.

Prevention

The most effective way to prevent and get rid of millipede infestations is to reduce areas of moisture in and around your home. Consider running a dehumidifier if you have a damp basement. Keep lawns mowed so that grass does not retain moisture, and water lawns in the early morning to allow grass to dry during the day. Remove leaf piles and grass clippings. Store firewood off of the ground.