

# Surinam Cockroach (*Pycnoscelus surinamensis*)



**Distribution:** Known from many tropical and subtropical regions around the globe. In temperate climates may dwell in greenhouses only. Introduced into the U.S.: several southern states and California.

**Hosts and damage:** In greenhouses and urban landscapes it can damage tender young plants and seedlings. Occasionally, this cockroach may invade various structures where it may feed on indoor plants.

**Field ID:** Adults about 18-25mm long. Pronotum dark brown to black with light tan front edge. Wings are brown and completely cover abdominal segments. Dark brown larvae resemble Oriental cockroaches and can be distinguished by dull, rough posterior abdominal segments. Reproduces parthenogenetically. Many populations lack males. Female carries the egg case and larvae hatch inside her abdomen.