



## PEST OF THE MONTH

September

### **FLEA LARVAE**

Flea's have up to 4 generations a year, females being able to produce 45-50 eggs after every meal of blood from a host of either humans or pets. Most fleas overwinter in the larval or pupal stage with best survival rate in moist, damp winters and early spring. Thus they thrive outside in our western Canadian climate!

Flea eggs and larvae are most resistant to chemicals, but frequent vacuuming inside helps break that indoor cycle, in conjunction with your vet's recommendation for control on your pets.

For outdoor treatment and management of overwintering flea larvae it is best to use **nematodes**. Nematodes are naturally occurring in our soils, but are often not in the right stage to target pests without outside help from us. Just before soil temperatures drop is a good time to apply nematodes to lawns and flower beds, where flea larvae will overwinter, thus drastically reducing flea populations from emerging in the spring. *Steinernema Carpocapsae* is the species that targets flea larvae and is included in our Lawn + Garden Outdoor nematodes packs.

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