



Classification

Native Cockroach

Kingdom:	Animalia
Phylum:	Arthropoda
Class:	Hexapoda
Order:	Blattodea
Family:	Blattidae
Species:	<i>Polyzosteria</i> sp.
Common Names:	Native Cockroach, Bush Cockroach

Body

Body Parts:	3, head, thorax & abdomen
Legs:	6, attached to the thorax
Wings:	0, many cockroaches lack wings
Eyes:	Two compound eyes
Mouthparts:	Cockroaches have a set of mouthparts that allows them to bite and cut solid foods.
Cerci:	The cerci (sing: cercus) are small feeler-like organs at the rear end of the cockroach. With these, the cockroach can sense minute air movements produced, for example, by an approaching predator.

Life History

Habitat:	This is a native cockroach and lives in the Flinders Ranges of South Australia and elsewhere. They live on the ground among the dry grasses and bushes of the arid interior.
Life Cycle:	The female makes an ootheca (see picture), a kind of vessel, into which she lays many eggs. Once the ootheca is filled with eggs, the female hides it away under soil or leaf litter. A few weeks later, the young hatch and immediately fend for themselves.
Diet:	Scavengers. They eat all kinds of dead organic material.

