



## Is my house crawling with pests?

**Transcript: Video clip presented by zoologist and author Lucy Cooke.**

*LUCY COOKE:*

We may think of ourselves as a nation of animal lovers who cherish our cats and dogs and have a fascination with all creatures – great and small. But that sentiment doesn't exactly extend to the thousands of creatures with whom we unwittingly share our home.

Last year there were 600,000 pest control call outs in the UK, and every year sees us having to deal with more and more infestations.

*CONTRIBUTOR #1:*

What are you doing is there one under there?

*CONTRIBUTOR #2:*

Yes. It's only a little one – stand back.

*LUCY COOKE:*

Everybody has their own particular bugbear – some people hate rats, others pigeons, for some people it's slugs or it might be fleas. For me, I've been waging a war against the moths in my flat, who seem to have a love of only my most expensive cashmere jumpers.

In fact, moth problems – one of the more common pests – have increased by 75% in the last five years. And there has also been a rise in the number of rats – one in 20 homes are now estimated to have rat infestations.

So how do we know if our home has a pest problem? And what can we do to protect it? For this guide I'm going to talking to people who fight pests and find out exactly that.