

All pests suck or they wouldn't be called pests. (Right?) If you try to compliment someone by calling them a pest, all you will do is cause hurt and confusion. But what pests are the worst?? Let's find out!

**Ants:** Ants are pretty harmless, yet you wouldn't want to be covered in them would you? It's hard for me to figure out why that could be. It's like being covered in apples or strawberries. Who cares? Ok, ok, ants don't taste as nice as the fruit (I assume), but they're about as deadly. Actually they could be LESS deadly. Who's ever heard of an allergy to ants? Oh you can be allergic to ants. Whoops.

**Houseflies:** Why do flies keep landing on me? What are they getting out of it? Do they think they can nibble me? Think again. It wouldn't be so bad, but they keep trying over and over. No I'm NOT food. I'm certainly not a source of protection. I WILL squash you.

**Mosquitos:** Ok, I AM food to mosquitos. Apparently the things have caused 50% of ALL human deaths, from the start of humanity. (According to QI). That's pretty bad. No, they're not armed with pistols or bazookas, (though that would be pretty cool), they spread malaria. Duh. (But not in England so it's not so bad here).

**Maggots:** If you've got maggots eating away at you, things have gone terribly wrong for you. Unless they're being used for medicinal purposes. But even then, you still don't REALLY want them on you. You thought ants were bad. Urgh.

**Spiders:** Most spiders are harmless in the UK at least. In fact they eat the annoying flies. For me that makes me question the pest status, but many wouldn't agree. I guess they just look scary. The things spiders MAKE however are pretty annoying. By that, I'm referring to cobwebs. If someone spots them on your property, you're going to look like you don't give a crap. Unless you explain you could never harm another animal or even a bug's home. Then you're going to look a bit mental. On the plus side, not dangerously so. Then again, cobwebs catch flies. An excellent example of cognitive dissonance for you.

**Cockroaches:** If you thought ants were bad (again), cockroaches are quite a bit bigger. Google describes them as 'unhygienic' but I've yet to see any insect take a bath, so why make the distinction? Well actually I have seen ants in baths, but I assumed they got in them by accident and didn't really want one. Interestingly Google says 'Ants are exceptional cleaners', so I guess I was mistaken.

**Fleas:** People with shaved heads may look intimidating, but at least they can't spread fleas. Sure fleas don't cause pain, but it's the thought of them ganging up on me and binging on my blood. Like mosquitos times a hundred. I don't care for fleas at all.

**Ticks:** The deadliest pest so far (in the UK), in that they can cause Lyme disease. To me that makes them less of a pest and more of a serious health hazard, but I guess diseases would be merely annoying and 'pest-like' to those who are seriously depressed. Even so, that's a needlessly complex way of looking at life, so I wouldn't really take that insight seriously. Apparently it takes ticks 36 to 48 hours to transmit diseases. I'd like to think I'm observant enough to spot a creepy crawly on me for

that long, but Justin Bieber for one wasn't. Am I more alert than him? As life experiences have shown, probably not. :( On the subject of Bieber, I looked up his surname on a website out of curiosity, and apparently it means someone who looks like a beaver. I suppose he does look like a beaver. :O

Bees: Bees die after stinging people? That makes them the kamikaze pilots of the insect world. At least they have honour unlike the sneaky ticks that make people feel like idiots. And bees produce honey, too. That almost makes them non-pests in my eyes, but of course... ow.

Wasps: You'd think wasps would be infinitely more common than bees, as they don't keep killing themselves all the time, just to prove how hard and brave they are or whatever, but I'm not sure if I've noticed a difference in numbers. I guess honey farms save the bees. Mmm delicious honey. How's that making you feel, bee? You sting me, I take your food.

Rats: The biggest pest so far. Thankfully they don't spread plague anymore, otherwise them stealing your cheese would be the very least of your worries.

Thieves: I'm not sure if I've heard of a thief spreading plague either, but the thought of someone nicking my CDs or guitars? Unacceptable. I've certainly never heard of a robber attacking someone then dying (like a bee), but they CAN be dangerous. So go away, thieves.

Ok! That was twelve pests for you. Do you have a favourite? Mine's the spider. That's all from me. Bye!