



## hissing cockroach

**NAME:** *Gromphadorhina portentosa*

**FROM:** Madagascar

**EATS:** Decaying vegetable matter

**SIZE:** Up to 10cm in length

**AGE:** Up to 5 years

**SEXING:** Males have pronounced 'horns'

**HOUSING:** Communally

Unlike most cockroaches, they are wingless.

They are excellent climbers and can scale smooth glass.

They can produce a loud hissing sound if threatened.

The sound is produced by squeezing air through special openings in the side of their bodies called spiracles.

Males can be distinguished from females by their thicker, hairier antennae and the pronounced "horns" on the pronotum.

Females carry the ootheca (egg case) internally, and release the young nymphs only after the eggs have hatched.

