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Dear Steve,

Whilst not wishing to take up too much of the Newsletter's valuable space, with your permission I would like to comment on Dr. Mound's letter concerning the reprinting of the Information leaflet on Psocids.

I suspect that space in the Newsletter would not allow the inclusion of the seven page report which summarizes the work on which the leaflet is based. Bearing this in mind, are the questionable statements (a failing of many condensed and popularized accounts) so damning as to negate its purpose?

With respect to Dr. Mound paragraph four does not state, nor to my mind imply, that psocids are "never found where food is produced" but that the sorts of psocids found in homes are never found where food is produced. This again is an oversimplification as species of the genera Lepinotus and Trogium have been recorded in industrial and domestic locations. However, the scientific basis of the statement is that one particular species - Liposcelis bostrychophilus Badonnel, the major species associated with consumer complaints, has never been discovered in industrial premises.

I would submit that the leaflet with all its faults contains advice of value to the enquirer and is a useful, time-saving and yet scientifically justifiable report.

Yours sincerely,

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