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*The Social-Ecological System of Bed Bugs: Planning from the Intersection of Humans and Non-Humans*

Studies on the spatiotemporal distribution of bedbug infestation indicates correlation with low-income neighbourhoods and persistent infestation despite approaches undertaken to control them. However, we lack a comprehensive understanding and systemic exploration of both these issues. Therefore, my research seeks to understand how the entanglement between bedbugs and humans is situated within the larger social-ecological systems (SES) co-constituting urban life-worlds. I use methods from ethnographic studies and population genetics to engage with six key stakeholders situated within the larger social-ecological system of bedbug infestation. These stakeholders are the tenants, landlords, housing authority officials, pest management professionals, entomologists, and bedbugs themselves. My research aims to examine how bedbugs, in low-income neighbourhoods in the U.S., are embedded within complex social-ecological systems and how bedbugs alter the practices of different stakeholders.