



Need to Know

- Straight talk for professionals about pests and pest control products

Volume: 2
Issue: 1
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Spider Management

Is it time for you to add and expand your service to include spider management and increase profits? Many pest management professionals provide a valuable service to customers as they manage these pests.

Common Structure Invading Spiders

Most people are fearful of spiders despite the fact that they seldom bite people and only a few species are harmful. Spiders that are considered dangerous to humans include the yellow sac spider (Fig. 1), brown recluse spider (Fig. 2), hobo spider (Fig. 3), and black widow spider (Fig. 4). Distribution of these spiders in the U.S. is shown in figure 5.

Spiders are not insects, they belong to the class Arachnida – a group of Arthropods that also includes scorpions, mites and ticks. Unlike insects that have 3 body regions, a spider's body consists of 2 body regions (cephalothorax and abdomen). Spiders have 8 legs and usually 8 eyes. They are wingless and do not have antennae. Their mouthparts are in the form of fangs called chelicerae.



Fig.2. Brown recluse spider: the violin shaped mark on the cephalothorax helps ID this spider.



Fig.3. Hobo spider: only sure way to ID this spider is to observe the reproductive structures under a microscope.



Fig.1. Yellow sac spider: yellow in color, spinnerets are conical in shape.



Fig.4. Black widow spider: adult female with red hour glass.

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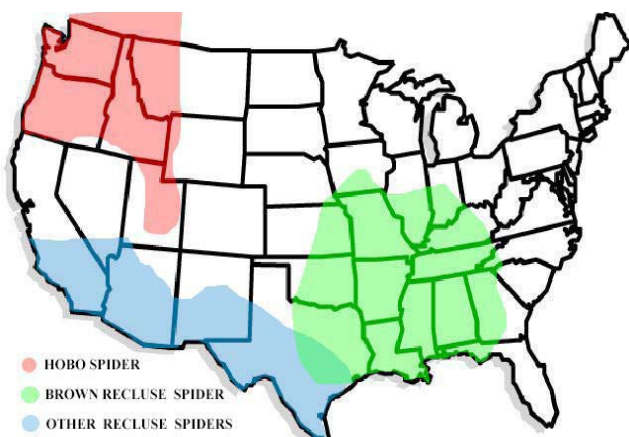


Fig.5. Distribution of medically important spider species. Widow spiders may be found throughout the U.S.

Inspection and identification

The first step in effective management of spiders is to conduct a thorough inspection of the property. Focus on likely spider habitat like garages, basements, crawl spaces, and attics. Pay particular attention to lighting as this will attract insects that serve as food for the spiders. Monitoring traps can be used by professionals to locate infestations and will also aid in control. Wear gloves while conducting the inspection to avoid bites.

Non-chemical management

This is essential for effective spider management and often requires the cooperation of the customer. Five non-chemical spider proofing methods are given by Hedges (2003):

- Changing exterior lighting
- Eliminating harborages
- Removing spider webs from outside
- Sealing cracks and removing screens
- Improving ventilation in attics and crawlspaces

Insecticide application

Numerous Bayer Environmental Science products are labeled for spider control.

Residual insecticide sprays:

- Suspend® SC (deltamethrin)
- Tempo® SC Ultra (beta-cyfluthrin)
- Tempo® Ultra WSP (beta-cyfluthrin)
- Tempo® Ultra WP (beta-cyfluthrin)

Residual dusts:

- DeltaDust® (deltamethrin)
- Tempo® 1% Dust (cyfluthrin)
- Drione® (amorphous silica gel, pyrethrins)

Indoors, make spot or crack and crevice treatments with **residual insecticides** directly to spiders and to entry points such as around water pipes, doors, and windows. Treat areas where spiders normally feed or hide such as baseboards, corners, closets, behind furniture or stored items. In basements and crawl spaces, apply residual sprays to sill plates and other areas where spiders build their webs or crawl. Outside, make spot treatments directly to spiders and to areas they are likely to occur like around windows and doors, near light fixtures, under eaves, under window shutters, and in ornamentals located near the structure. Complete perimeter treatments are most effective against hunting spiders and brown recluse spiders. **Residual dusts** should be applied to cracks or voids that serve as entry ways or harborages for spiders. Dust formulations are also a good choice for application to attics (apply under or behind insulation) and crawl spaces. In moist areas use the water-proof DeltaDust.

References

- Hedges, S. 2004. Spiders, pp. 923 - 957. *In: Mallis Handbook of Pest Control, 9th Ed.* S.A. Hedges and D. Moreland, Eds. GIE Media, Inc., Cleveland, OH.
- Hedges, S. 2003. Spider-man. *PCT magazine*. 31(8): 64, 65, 68, 73.
- Hedges, S and M. Lacey. 1995. *Field Guide For the Management of Urban Spiders.* Franzak and Foster. Cleveland, OH. 220 pp.
- <http://spiders.ucr.edu/>
- www.recluseproject.ku.edu/

For more information on spider management and Bayer products, contact your Bayer representative or visit www.BayerProCentral.com.

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