

Wolf Spider



Appearance:

Wolf spiders range widely in adult body length from 1/4 to 1 3/8 inch long, and the leg span may range from 1 to 3 inches species. Both the body and legs of wolf spiders tend to be velvety or hairy in appearance.

Habitat:

Wolf spiders have fair vision and are active hunters. They are mostly nocturnal and rest under logs, among leaf litter, in burrows or crevices during the day. Wolf spiders are commonly found on ground level and in basements and garages of homes and buildings located in wooded areas and newly constructed where farmland had just been developed. Wolf spider bites, although rare, are said to be painful due to the size of the jaws (bee sting-like). However, the venom is considered to be mild and presents no threat to humans, barring allergic reactions or secondary bacterial infection. About 2500 species of wolf spider are known worldwide, over 258 species in the United States and Canada. This species mates in the autumn and the females overwinter; whereas, the males die before winter. Females may live up to 3 years.

Diet:

Like all spiders, wolf spiders are predators that will kill and eat almost any insect.

Solutions:

What you can do: The likelihood of introducing spiders within structures and encountering them in and around buildings can be reduced by: (1) eliminating tall and dense vegetation close to the foundation which serve as harborage for spiders and their prey (e.g., vines, groundcover, juniper, uncut grass and weeds), (2) excluding gaps under doors (by replacing or adding door sweeps), lower courses of siding, around utility penetrations and weep holes in brick veneer, (3) capturing wandering spiders on ground level, in basements and in attached garages by placing sticky traps indoors along walls behind furniture, washer, dryer, sump pump, water heater, furnace, commode, and storage (out of reach of children and pets), and (4) removal using a shop vacuum cleaner or household vacuum fitted with a hose attachment; this is useful for removing spider webs as well.

Professional Solution: A Quik-Kill service technician will apply an exterior barrier treatment around the foundation perimeter, beneath lower siding, under eaves and porticos, along exterior molding/trim, thresholds, patio, deck and chimney attachments, as well as inside and around sheds and other outbuildings. A regular pest management service program may be required in cases where large populations of spiders are present and where landscaping conditions and locality are conducive to their propagation. Indoors, basement sillplates and perimeters, as well as the corners and edges of spider-infested rooms, can be treated.



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