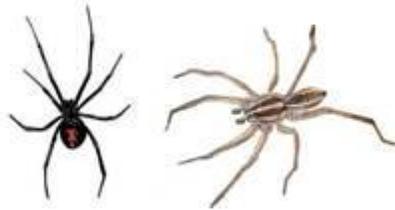


Tool box topic: SPIDERS

As we head into Spring there are new Hazards we must be aware of. Spiders are one of the hazards. Please review these prevention steps and alert employee's to the fact that spiders, including Black Widow spiders, may be present on their jobsites and to use extra caution to prevent spider bites. Attached is an OSHA fact sheet on the Black Widow spider and also a Spider identification sheet.



Prevention

Workers can take the following preventive steps:

- Inspect or shake out any clothing, shoes, towels, or equipment before use.
- Wear protective clothing such as a long-sleeved shirt and long pants, hat, gloves, and boots when handling stacked or undisturbed piles of materials.
- Minimize the empty spaces between stacked materials.
- Remove and reduce debris and rubble from around the outdoor work areas.
- Trim or eliminate tall grasses from around outdoor work areas.
- Store apparel and outdoor equipment in tightly closed plastic bags.
- Keep your tetanus boosters up-to-date (every 10 years). Spider bites can become infected with tetanus spores.

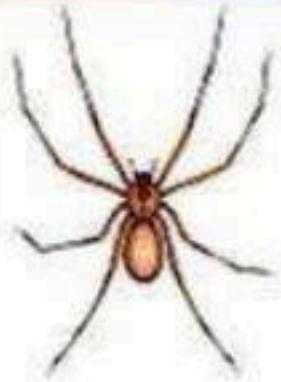
First Aid

Workers should take the following steps if they are bitten by a spider:

- Stay calm. Identify the type of spider if it is possible to do so safely. Identification will aid in medical treatment.
- Wash the bite area with soap and water.
- Apply a cloth dampened with cold water or filled with ice to the bite area to reduce swelling.
- Elevate bite area if possible.
- Do not attempt to remove venom.
- Notify your supervisor.

USA SPIDER CHART

DEADLY & DANGEROUS



BROWN RECLUSE SPIDER



BLACK WIDOW SPIDER



HOBO SPIDER

SPIDER BITE FIRST AID

Keep patient calm

Apply ice to decrease pain and swelling

Use anti-inflammatories for pain relief

Contact your doctor

NOTICE: MALE SPIDERS HAVE A SMALLER ABDOMEN, LONGER LEGS & SWOLLEN PALPS (FOR REPRODUCTION)

TOXIC (POISONOUS) — PAINFUL BITE



FEMALE MOUSE SPIDER

ENLARGED HEAD & FANGS • DEEP PAINFUL BITE
GROUND DWELLING - OFTEN MISTAKEN FOR FUNNEL-WEB



MALE MOUSE SPIDER



Common
BLACK HOUSE SPIDER
VENOMOUS • NAUSEA, SWEATING, ETC.
OFTEN FOUND IN THEIR WEBS IN WINDOW FRAMES, EAVES, ETC.



WOLF SPIDER

NON AGGRESSIVE
GROUND DWELLING

WARNING: MOST OF THESE SPIDERS CAN BE DANGEROUS TO PEOPLE WITH ALLERGIES OR HYPER SENSITIVITIES

THE "LOW RISK" SPIDERS

SPIDERS CAN BE BENEFICIAL IN THE CONTROL OF MOSQUITOES & FLIES • BUT IF THEY PRESENT A DANGER - CALL FUMAPEST



FEMALE TRAP-DOOR

MILDLY TOXIC • NON AGGRESSIVE
GROUND DWELLING (BURROW - OFTEN WITHOUT A LID)



MALE TRAP-DOOR



GARDEN ORB-WEAVING

RELATIVELY HARMLESS • BENEFICIAL
OFTEN SEEN IN A LARGE WEB IN THE GARDEN



SAINT ANDREW'S CROSS



HUNTSMAN

TIMID • RARELY BITES
FOUND UNDER LOOSE BARK
MAY WANDER INDOORS

OSHA FactSheet

Protect Yourself! Workers may be exposed to

Black Widow Spider

The black widow belongs to a group of spiders commonly known as cobweb spiders. The characteristic hourglass is located on the underside of the abdomen. Female black widows are dangerous and can bite and inject toxic venom.

Identification

- The female black widow is normally shiny black, with a red hourglass marking (see photo) on the underside of the abdomen.
- The abdominal marking may range in color from yellowish orange to red and its shape may range from an hourglass to a dot.
- The body of an adult black widow female is about 1/2 inch long.



Photo: Extension Entomology, Texas A&M University

- Symptoms may include nausea, profuse perspiration, tremors, labored breathing, restlessness, increased blood pressure and fever.
- The pain from the bite will usually persist for the first 8-12 hours.
- Symptoms may continue for several days.

Habitat

The black widow is commonly found in the following places:

- Outdoors - woodpiles, rubble piles, under stones, in hollow stumps, and in rodent burrows, privies, sheds and garages.
- Indoors - undisturbed, cluttered areas in basements and crawl spaces.



Photo: University of Missouri Extension

Protection

- Wear a long-sleeved shirt, hat, gloves, and boots when handling boxes, firewood, lumber, and rocks, etc.
- Inspect and shake out clothing and shoes before getting dressed.
- Use insect repellants, such as DEET or Picaridin, on clothing and footwear.

Treatment

Symptoms

- The bite of the black widow may be painful or it may go unnoticed.
- The skin may display one or two bite marks with local swelling. Pain usually progresses from the bite site and eventually to the abdomen and back.
- Severe cramping or rigidity may occur in the abdominal muscles.
- Elevate and immobilize the extremity.
- Capture the spider, if at all possible, for identification purposes.
- Seek medical attention immediately.
- If you have a heart condition or other heart problem, you may need hospitalization.

This is one in a series of informational fact sheets highlighting OSHA programs, policies or standards. It does not impose any new compliance requirements. For a comprehensive list of compliance requirements of OSHA standards or regulations, refer to Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This information will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. The voice phone is (202) 693-1999; teletypewriter (TTY) number: (877) 889-5627.

For more complete information:



U.S. Department of Labor

www.osha.gov

(800) 321-OSHA

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