



# Incy wincey... **S**piders

### **Pest Control Services**





## Spiders



Spiders are not classed as pests and we do not provide a service to remove or kill them.

#### Characteristics

Spiders (arachnids) are distinguished from insects by having eight legs. In the UK there are many species of spiders and one of the commonest indoor species can grow up to 12cm in legspan.

#### Where to find spiders

British spiders can be found in all environments and are commonly seen in attics, cellars and living areas. It is estimated that in an acre of rough grassland there will be more than two million spiders.

#### Problems caused by spiders

They are all predatory on insects and play a significant role in the biological control of insect pests.

All spiders are capable of injecting poison from their fangs into the prey animal, however very few British spiders are able to puncture human skin. Even if a larger spider does manage to bite, the symptoms are usually like a pin-prick. It is milder than a wasp or bee sting and does not last very long.

#### Life Cycle

The female spider lays a variable number of eggs which hatch into miniature spiders (spiderlings). These grow through a number of skin moults before reaching the adult stage. Two generations per year is quite normal.







#### Control

The control of spiders is not considered necessary except in very rare circumstances.

#### The False Widow Spider

The hysteria around False Widow Spiders helps to feed underlying fears that people have about arachnids, leading to misidentification and persecution of many common house and garden species.

The Conservation Charity Bug Life have now published a new web page packed with information about the False Widow Spider to allay growing fears over the danger of this slow moving arachnid.

Further information can be obtained from the Bug Life website:www.buglife.org.uk/news

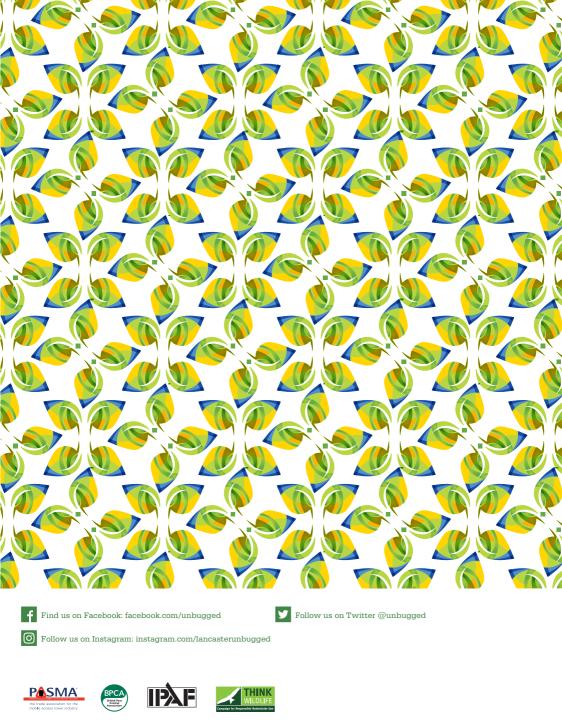
The False Widow Spider can grow up to the size of a fifty pence piece including the legs, and has a brown abdomen. It is brownish in colour with beige markings and red/orange legs.

It has a more venomous bite than most British spiders, injecting a neurotoxin which can cause some localised pain, minor swelling and in extreme cases nausea within a few hours. Whilst there are no proven cases of the False Widow Spider causing death or permanent injury, people should seek medical advice in the event of any serious reaction to the bite, or if people are already compromised by existing health issues.

#### Spiders are not classed as a public health pest and we do not provide a service to remove or kill them



Unbugged, Marine Road East, Morecambe LA4 5AF



Unbugged, Morecambe Town Hall, Marine Road East, Morecambe LA4 5AF

T 0808 2640858 E pestcontrol@unbugged.co.uk W www.unbugged.co.uk

