

Beneficial Species Profile



Photo credit: Eugene E. Nelson, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Wolf spider

Scientific Name: *Hogna* spp.

Order and Family: Araneae, Lycosidae

Size and Appearance:

	Adult	Egg	Larva/Nymph	Pupae (if applicable)
Length (mm)	1.25-5 mm			
Appearance	Typically brown to gray in color, hairy with various markings or lines	Eggs laid in sac carried on the back of the female		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Chewing

Host/s: Wolf spiders are solitary and live in a variety of ground habitats such as stream edges, gravel or sand bars, low vegetation, and woodland leaf litter. Some dig burrows or tunnel into natural cavities under flat rocks or logs; some have no home at all.

Description of Benefits (predator, parasitoid, pollinator, etc.): These spiders are predators of a variety of ground-dwelling insects and other spiders, including houseflies, crickets, cockroaches, and grasshoppers. They can also be idle predators that wait for prey to pass by before attacking. They react to vibrations caused by wings beating or by prey walking on the ground. They do not spin webs to catch their prey and can climb short distances up tree trunks and other objects. They have excellent night vision.

References:

Jacobs, S. (2002). Wolf Spiders. Accessed on April 4, 2016 from <http://ento.psu.edu/extension/factsheets/wolf-spiders>.

Wolf spider. (2016). In *Encyclopædia Britannica*. Accessed on April 4, 2016 from <http://www.britannica.com/animal/wolf-spider>