

Beneficial Species Profile



Photo credit: Joseph Berger, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Daddy Long Legs (spider), granddaddy long-legs, carpenter spider, daddy long-legger, vibrating spider, cellar spider

Scientific Name: *Pholcus phalangioides*

Order and Family: Opiliones; Phalangida

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg	1mm	25 to 60 eggs wrapped in a thin layer of silk.
Larva/Nymph		Appearance is same as adult, just smaller
Adult	2-10mm	Petite bodies with legs up to 50mm long. Grey or brown with banding. They have 8 eyes arranged in 2 rows of 3, and a smaller set of 2. They vary in size depending on age.
Pupa (if applicable)		

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Jackknife chelicerae used for piercing and injecting venom into prey.

Host/s: Opportunistic hunters that will mimic prey caught in web of another spider, and attack spiders, eggs, or prey of other spiders within their web.

Description of Benefits (predator, parasitoid, pollinator, etc.): They are great predators with a variable diet ranging across many pest species. They are small but deadly, with many species having venom glands.

References

Daddy Long Legs Myth. (2009, August 3). Retrieved from <http://spiders.ucr.edu/daddylonglegs.html>

Jacobs Sr., Steve. (2002, March). Retrieved from <http://ento.psu.edu/extension/factsheets/longbodied-cellar-spider>