Pest Profile

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Common Name: Wolf Spider

Scientific Name: Lycosa spp.

Order and Family: Araneae: Lycosidae

Size and Appearance: There are over 30 species of Wolf Spiders present in the United States. They are recognizable by their hairy appearance and larger size. Generally, females are about 9-35 mm in length while males are a bit smaller at 6-20 mm in length. Color varies by species but tends to fall on the side of being a darker shade of brown, often with paler colored stripes or other markings. They have 8 eyes, large chelicerae, spinnerets on abdomen, long legs, and clawed tarsi.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length (mm)</th>
<th>Appearance</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Egg</td>
<td>Females produce an egg sac which is carried on the spinnerets until deposited in June. The sac contains 100-135 eggs. She carries the spider hatchlings on her back for safety.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larva/Nymph</td>
<td>Spiderlings resemble the adults with less hairy appearance. They are fully developed prior to Winter the year they hatch.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult</td>
<td>Females larger than males. Dark in color with lighter colored stripes or markings. 8 distinct eyes, large mouthparts, spinnerets on abdomen, and clawed tarsi.</td>
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Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Chewing
Host/s or Prey: *Lycosa* spp. feed on smaller arthropods.

**Description of Damage (larvae and adults):** Wolf Spiders do not cause physical damage and are nuisance pests. They can bite humans if handled directly, which will result in redness, pain, and swelling. Certain individuals may be more susceptible to the venom than others.

**References:**
