

Pest Alert: Brown widow spider

Latrodectus geometricus



Oregon
Department
of Agriculture

Introduction

Brown widow spider has been found for the first time in Oregon at one property in Oregon City in September of 2018. Previously, this African spider was only known from California, Gulf States and Florida.

It is unknown how the spiders were brought to the area.



Brown widow from above and below. Note orange hourglass.

What to look for

- Orange hourglass on underside of body
- Spiny egg sacs in dark corners and other sheltered areas



Brown widow egg sacs. Egg sacs appear spiny.

From the Center for Invasive Species Research: *How to identify (and misidentify) the brown widow* at spider.cisr.ucr.edu/identifying_brown_widow_spiders.html

Pest Status

Brown widow has venom that is very similar to black widow venom. Bites are potentially medically significant.

What can you do?

The Oregon Department of Agriculture is attempting to determine whether brown widow is established out of doors in Oregon. If you believe you have found brown widow, please take images and notify ODA.

Please contact the Oregon Department of Agriculture at plant-entomologists@oda.state.or.us or 503-986-4636.

For more information

Oregon Department of Agriculture
635 Capitol St. NE
Salem, OR 97301-2532
503-986-4636 or 1-800-525-0137
www.Oregon.gov/ODA



Oregon
Department
of Agriculture

