

Horticulture Diagnostic Laboratory



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
of Suffolk County
www.ccesuffolk.org

Extension Education Center
423 Griffing Ave, Ste 100
Riverhead, NY 11901-3071
631-727-4126

Bayard Cutting Arboretum
Montauk Hwy
Great River, NY 11739
631-581-4223



Spider Identification - Submission Form

Please check off : _____ \$8.00 to determine if spider is a Brown Recluse ONLY
_____ \$11.00 to determine the family to which the spider belongs*
(* identification requires spider to be an adult in good condition to use our i.d. keys)

Office Use Only
of Samples _____
Amount Paid _____
CCE Staff _____

Make checks payable to *Cornell Cooperative Extension—Suffolk County*

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date _____

Phone (____) _____

Send report via email (*Print Legibly*) _____

Spider Found Indoors (*Check*)

Found in wood	Found on clothing	Found on furniture	Found on carpeting	Found on hard floor	Found in stored food	Found near sink or drain	Found on wall/ceiling	Found near windows	Found near plants	Found in beds, bed frames	Other (explain below)

Other and/or further description of problem _____

Spider Found Outdoors (*Check*)

Found in wood	Found in lawn	Found on tree/shrub	Found on flowers	Found on vegetables	Found on fruit	Found on exterior surface of structure	Found on soil near structure	Found on exterior window surface	Found in web

Other and/or further description of spider problem: _____

How many spiders were found?

How To Select and Submit Spider Specimens for Identification

1. Identification of spider specimens can not be completed while you wait—reports are sent out by mail or via email.

2. Collecting spider specimens:

- Try to place spider specimens in unbreakable containers.
- Spiders should be placed in an unbreakable, leak proof container. You can add a small amount of rubbing alcohol to the container.
- Please **DO NOT PLACE SPIDERS ON TAPE**. Spiders cannot be removed from tape without damaging them and possibly making identification **not possible**.
- Obtain the specimen(s) if possible just prior to shipping to or dropping off at one of the Labs to ensure the sample is fresh or place in refrigerator to prevent the spider from rotting.

3. Packing/Shipping

- Spider specimens must be sent in crush proof containers. Specimens sent in envelopes used to mail normal letters usually arrive in poor condition and identification is often not possible. This would require you to submit more specimens.
- Select a strong container, such as a corrugated box, that will not crush in transit. Depending on the specimens sent a padded type envelope will also work.
- Use a layer of appropriate packing material (i.e. Styrofoam, crushed paper, packing peanuts, etc.) on the bottom of the box. Place the container containing the insects on top of this material and then fill in the space above the sample with more packing material to prevent the samples from moving during transit.
- Mail specimens early in the week.
- Include this completed data form with your sample.

4. Payment/Mailing Address

- The fee for identification is **\$8.00 to determine if the spider is a Brown Recluse spider only, \$11.00 to determine the identification of the spider to family** if it is an adult spider in good condition. Payment is due when dropping off samples or should be included with samples that are shipped.
- You may bring your spider specimen to one of the Labs listed on the front page or mail to Riverhead only. Both Labs have “drop off” boxes for after hour, weekend or holiday drop off. The drop off box at the Riverhead office is located at the rear door entrance.