

Long Bodied Cellar Spiders



QUICK STATS:

Color: Pale yellow to light brown or gray

Shape: Long skinny legs with a small body

Size: ¼ -3/8 inches long (6-9mm)

OVERVIEW

Long-bodied cellar spiders are commonly referred to as "daddy-long-legs" because of their very long, thin legs and as their name implies are found in dark and damp places.

HABITS

Cellar spiders build loose, irregular, tangled webs in corners. They hang upside down on the underside of the web. The webs are not cleaned but instead a new web is continually added. This habit can result in extensive webbing in a relatively short time.

THREATS

Cellar spiders do not pose a threat to humans. While they are commonly found in homes, they usually stay in one place. They are not known to bite. Urban legend has it that their venom is of the most deadly of spiders, but their weak mouthparts keep them from injecting venom into humans. While it is correct that they cannot successfully bite, their venom is not very potent.

PREVENTION

- To keep long-bodied cellar spiders out, seal cracks on the outside of the home, especially around doors and windows, and use screens to prevent entry into homes. Using yellow light bulbs for exterior lighting may reduce the number of spiders and other insects as they are typically attracted to white-light sources. Additionally, lowering the humidity in basements, cellars and crawl spaces with the use of a dehumidifier or ventilation can discourage cellar spiders from living there.
- If you suspect you have a spider infestation, contact a licensed pest professional.

DID YOU KNOW? Long Bodied Cellar Spiders...

The spiders and their webs are usually found in dark and damp places, such as cellars, basements, and crawl spaces. They can also be found in the corners of garages, sheds, barns, and warehouses, on eaves, windows, and ceilings, and in closets, sink cabinets, and bath-traps. Cellar spiders seem to fare better in areas with higher relative humidity