

Brown Recluse Spiders

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Often overlooked, injuries and deaths due to bees, spiders and other insects are a concern that companies should manage as seriously as any other hazard in the workplace.

Fatal on-the-job injuries do occur as a result of bites and stings from insects and spiders.

OSHA Standard 1926.21(b)(4) says that in job site areas where harmful plants or animals are present, employees who may be exposed shall be instructed regarding the potential hazards, and how to avoid injury, and the first aid procedures to be used in the event of injury.

- Brown recluse spiders have a dark brown, violin-shaped mark on their upper body and are also known as violin spiders or fiddle backs. They also have 3 pairs of eyes, instead of the usual 4 pairs other spiders have.
- The brown recluse spider prefers dark, sheltered areas.
- The bite of a brown recluse spider is poisonous. Tissue at the area of the bite dies and eventually sheds and can become severely infected.
- If you are bitten by a brown recluse spider:
 - Clean the bite area with soap and water.
 - Apply ice to the bite area to slow absorption of the venom.
 - Seek medical attention immediately.

Seek immediate medical attention if any insect bite causes severe chest pain, nausea, severe sweating, loss of breath, serious swelling, or slurred speech.



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