



# Black Widow



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## Black Widow

Scientific Name:

*Latrodectus mactans*

- ◆ Black
- ◆ Male 1/8" (3-4 mm), female 3/8" (8-10 mm)
- ◆ Male's abdomen has white and red markings on the sides; Female's abdomen is almost spherical with a red hourglass mark below
- ◆ Feeds on insects
- ◆ Live among fallen branches and under various objects such as furniture, outdoor seats and trash
- ◆ Despite its reputation, this spider often attempts to escape rather than bite, unless it is guarding an egg mass. Males do not bite.
- ◆ After mating, the female often eats the male, earning the name "widow."
- ◆ **Warning:** of all spiders, the Black Widow is the most feared. The female's venom is especially poisonous to humans.



# Brown Recluse



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## Brown Recluse

Scientific Name:

*Loxosceles  
recluse*

- ◆ Body is grayish to dark brown with no obvious pattern
- ◆ Feeds on insects
- ◆ Lives in outdoors in sheltered corners among loose debris, indoors on the floor and behind furniture, and in houses and outbuildings
- ◆ This spider sometimes takes shelter in clothing or a folded towel and bites when disturbed
- ◆ **Warning:** the venom delivered by these spiders is especially poisonous to people and those bitten often become ill. The wound commonly develops a crust and a surrounding red zone. The crust falls off, leaving a deep crater that often does not heal for several months!



# California Giant Stonefly



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## California Giant Stonefly

Scientific Name:

*Pteronarcys californica*

- ◆ Pale brownish gray, paler below
- ◆ Head is blackish with a sharp erect tooth on the head plate above the base of the antennae
- ◆ Adults feed on nothing, young feed on algae
- ◆ Live near fast streams in mountainous regions
- ◆ Mostly nocturnal
- ◆ Adults are poor fliers and usually spend their time crawling over rocks near water



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# Chiggers



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## Chiggers

Scientific Name:

*Trombicula*  
species

- ◆ Members of the velvet mite family
- ◆ Easily recognized by their red coloring and dense, velvety hair
- ◆ Adults measure 1/6-1/8 of an inch (0.5-4 mm)
- ◆ Adults eat insect eggs
- ◆ Larvae, also called red bugs, are parasites of insects, spiders, daddy-longlegs and scorpions
- ◆ Found in moist wood and deserts



# Mayflies



[www.ucmp.berkeley.edu](http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu)

## Mayflies

Scientific Name:

*Ephemera species*

- ◆ Members of the burrowing mayfly family
- ◆ Many of the largest and most common North American mayflies belong to this family
- ◆ Some measure more than 1 inch long (25 mm)
- ◆ Usually found in shallow water



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# Mormon Cricket



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## Mormon Cricket

Scientific Name:

*Anabrus simplex*

- ◆ 1-2 3/8" (25-60 mm) long
- ◆ Dark brown to bluish black, sometimes with pale markings
- ◆ Feeds on Lupine, sagebrush, and many plants, including grains and vegetables
- ◆ Lives in open fields
- ◆ This common cricket got its name after thousands suddenly attacked the Mormon pioneers' first crops in Utah in 1848. Fortunately, many California gulls arrived in time to devour the crickets and save the crops.



# Zebra Caddisfly



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## Zebra Caddisfly

Scientific Name:

***Macrostemum  
zebratum***

- ◆ Resemble moths because their wings are often shaped and colored like those of some moth species
- ◆ The Greek order name means “hairy wings”
- ◆ Most are poor fliers
- ◆ Have slender legs with spurs and 2 strong claws and long multi-segmented antennae
- ◆ Adults only live a month, and so rarely eat
- ◆ Larvae, called caddis worms, are aquatic and undergo complete metamorphosis
- ◆ There are 1,000 species of caddisflies in North America divided into 18 families and 4,500 species worldwide