

BROWN RECLUSE SPIDER

Loxosceles reclusa
Gertsch & Mulaik, 1940



CLASSIFICATION

Class: Arachnida

Order: Araneae

Family: Sicariidae

No recognized subspecies



NOT LISTED

VERY RARE



NOT LISTED

Identification: Adults can reach a body length up to 9 mm (2.5 cm with legs spread). Coloration usually dark beige to brown with a violin-shaped band on cephalothorax. Body covered with thin hairs. Long and thin legs

Range: The species occurs in North America and is mostly found in the eastern half of USA (except Florida) and south to extreme north-east Mexico.

Habitat : Occurs in dark areas, generally close or in human settlement areas

Behavior: Secretive species, able to survive for a very long time with no food and water. Venom very potent. Feeds mostly on dead insects.

Status in the wild: The species is apparently common throughout its range despite of eradication plans carried regularly. Not truly established outside its range.

In captivity: This species is fairly rare in captivity and probably very rarely if not kept by private breeders. Known from a handful of zoos and other public collections in America and Europe. Very rarely if ever bred in captivity.