

# A Bug's Life

# Brown recluse spider

*Loxosceles reclusa*

## Fun facts

- Common in eastern NE
- Live in undisturbed areas like attic, crawlspace, cellars, closets, etc.
- Active hunter, not aggressive
- Bites may occur if spider is accidentally pressed against body
- Venom is cytotoxin, medically important
- Many unknown lesions are misdiagnosed as spider bites



J. Green

## Identification

Spider: Long, slender legs, uniform color with dark violin-shape behind eyes, body is light brown with short hairs, there are no spines, stripes or patterns on abdomen or legs. Total body length is no more than 1/2" long. Brown recluse spiders only have 6 eyes, arranged in pairs.



UNL Department of Entomology

## Management

- Use glue boards to trap spiders and identify prey organisms
- Take precautions to avoid bites: Shake out boots or clothing, declutter, frequent vacuuming
- Inspect old storage items before moving into a new location
- Heavy infestations may warrant chemical control to reduce prey indoors and in wall voids



UNL Department of Entomology