

A Bug's Life

Cobweb spiders

Family: Theridiidae; Triangulate house spider - *Steatoda triangulosa*
Common house spider - *Parasteatoda tepidariorum*

Fun facts

- Most common spider in the world
- Found outdoors and indoors under some sort of cover or protection
- Build messy webs with strong silk
- Rest upside-down in web
- Move very slowly
- Found near pipes, under furniture, room corners in various locations

Identification

Eye arrangement (8): 8 eyes in 2 curved rows of 4 that form an oblong, clumped pattern

Spider: Small to medium length (1/10" to 3/5" long), globular, smooth, teardrop shaped abdomen when hanging in web, females larger than males

Management

- Natural enemy of many small insects in house like ants and small flies
- Remove old cobwebs so not to collect dust and debris
- Not harmful or aggressive and can live in harmony with humans



Female common house spider with egg sacs



UNL Department of Entomology



Female triangulate house spider



Male triangulate house spider

Photos: J. Green