

# A Bug's Life

# Garden spider

*Argiope aurantia*

## Fun facts

- Also called yellow/golden garden spider, black and yellow garden spider, zipper spider or corn spider
- Web has zigzag structure called a stabilimentum
- Find their prey (flying insects) by sensing vibrations on web
- Overwinter in egg sac
- One generation per year

## Identification

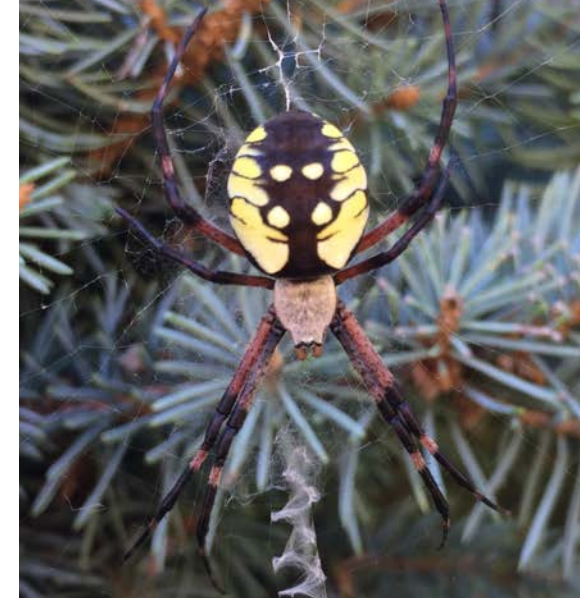
Web: Circular orb web among tall vegetation in a garden with zigzag structure

Egg sac: brown, spherical cocoon about 1" diameter

Spider: Body length of female ~1" long, silver hairs on cephalothorax, egg-shaped abdomen, marked with black and yellow colors; males are brown and much smaller

## Management

- Often preyed upon by birds and other predators and parasites
- Not a spider of medical significance\*
- Considered a beneficial organism, so no control is recommended
- Not aggressive towards humans, but use caution if relocating (best to use a container with a lid)



Photos: J. Green

\*Spiders are not poisonous, they are venomous and must bite to inject venom, when is intended only for prey