



Fact File - Arachnids (spiders)

Spiders, ticks, mites, centipedes, millipedes, are all arachnids.

There are a number of different types of spiders in New Zealand including the golden orb web spider, grey house spider, and the large brown vagrant spider. We also have the katipo spider, and in Auckland, the largest of our spiders - the Avondale spider. In recent years we have also seen an increase in white tailed spiders, which are identified by a white tip at the end of the abdomen.

Spiders are nocturnal and omnivores. They are also cannibalistic feeders and can transmit bacteria pathogens; spider bites can cause localised swelling or irritations. While the venom of most arachnids found in New Zealand is not necessarily poisonous to warm blooded animals and humans, they can introduce an extremely toxic substance into the blood stream. White tail bites, for example, can make people very ill and may require medical attention.

Spiders produce an egg sac consisting of a mass of silken threads. The eggs hatch inside the sac, and the young 'moult' once before ballooning on the silken threads to leave the sac. They are then left to find their own food. After successive moults they reach adult stage, where the body hardens and darkens in colour.

The average life cycle of most spiders is less than 12 months.

How we treat spiders

An external surface treatment is applied in areas where spiders typically crawl e.g. skirting boards, window frames, and the ceiling. For web spiders it is also good if the webs can be treated directly.

The treatment works on residual contact. This means the insect will absorb the product after crawling over it. The product then kills the insect by affecting the nervous system.

It is important that you leave cobwebs for the technician to locate where the spiders are nesting. You should not remove the cobwebs for at least 14 days after treatment so that visiting spiders (i.e. white tails) will come in contact with the product. Webs can then be brushed away with a broom – do not wash away with water.



Pre and Post Treatment Guide

It is important that your technician has easy and safe access to all entry points such as doorways, windows and skirting boards – these are the key areas for treatment. Before your technician arrives please make sure you:

- Cover beds, bed linen and pillows
- Clear any items from window sills and the floor (including from under beds and other furniture)
- Put personal items (e.g. clothing, toys) in cupboards or on a bed with a cover sheet
- Put personal toiletries (e.g. toothbrush, towels, toilet paper) in cupboards or cover them
- Put food and crockery away in cupboards (store food in airtight containers)
- Clean behind and under your whiteware appliances e.g. fridge, dishwasher and oven
- Wash walls and skirting boards.

Cleaning may remove the residual product leaving the treatment ineffective. We recommend that wash walls and skirting boards and water blast the outside of your property a couple of weeks before the treatment.

Do you have pets?

You must notify our office if there are pets on your property. If you have an 'inside' pet you must make alternative arrangements for your animal during the treatment and for at least three hours after the treatment. Reptile or fish tanks must be covered with oxygen supplies turned off.

After your pest control treatment

- Do not enter the property for at least three hours after your pest control treatment
- Wipe down food preparation areas (but not walls)
- Wash any bedding/covers that were left out
- Do not touch any installed traps or bait
- Do not wash the product off surfaces.
- Remove any webs with a dry broom after 14 days

For to prevent further infestations

There is no such thing as an invisible barrier to stop pests from coming inside. We view pest control as a partnership between our qualified technicians and you, the property owner/tenant. Good sanitation and hygiene, together with an effective pest control programme can reduce infestation.

We also recommend that you:

- Clean your kitchen and food preparation areas every day
- Remove rubbish and food scraps every day – dispose of in sealed bags
- Clean behind the fridge and oven to prevent pests from breeding (at least every 1-3 months)
- Regularly clean kitchen cupboards that are used to store food (at least every 1-2 months)
- Always keep food stored in air tight containers (e.g. flour, rice, spices, pasta, fruit and vegetables)
- Clean pet food bowls after every use

Our products

We offer a 100% guarantee on the professional service and application of our products. We use commercial pest control products that are approved by New Zealand's [Environmental Protection Agency](#). These products are designed to break down over a six to eight week period. The product has a manufacturer's guarantee of up to three months. To remain effective, the product must not be removed for the recommended life of the treatment (12 weeks). New Zealand has harsh UV light that may cause the product to break down earlier. More than one treatment may be required for ongoing control over the summer months.

Your treatment has a set timeframe for effectiveness. If you have any questions or concerns within four weeks of your treatment date please contact us on T: 0800TOAJET | E info@ajetservices.co.nz.