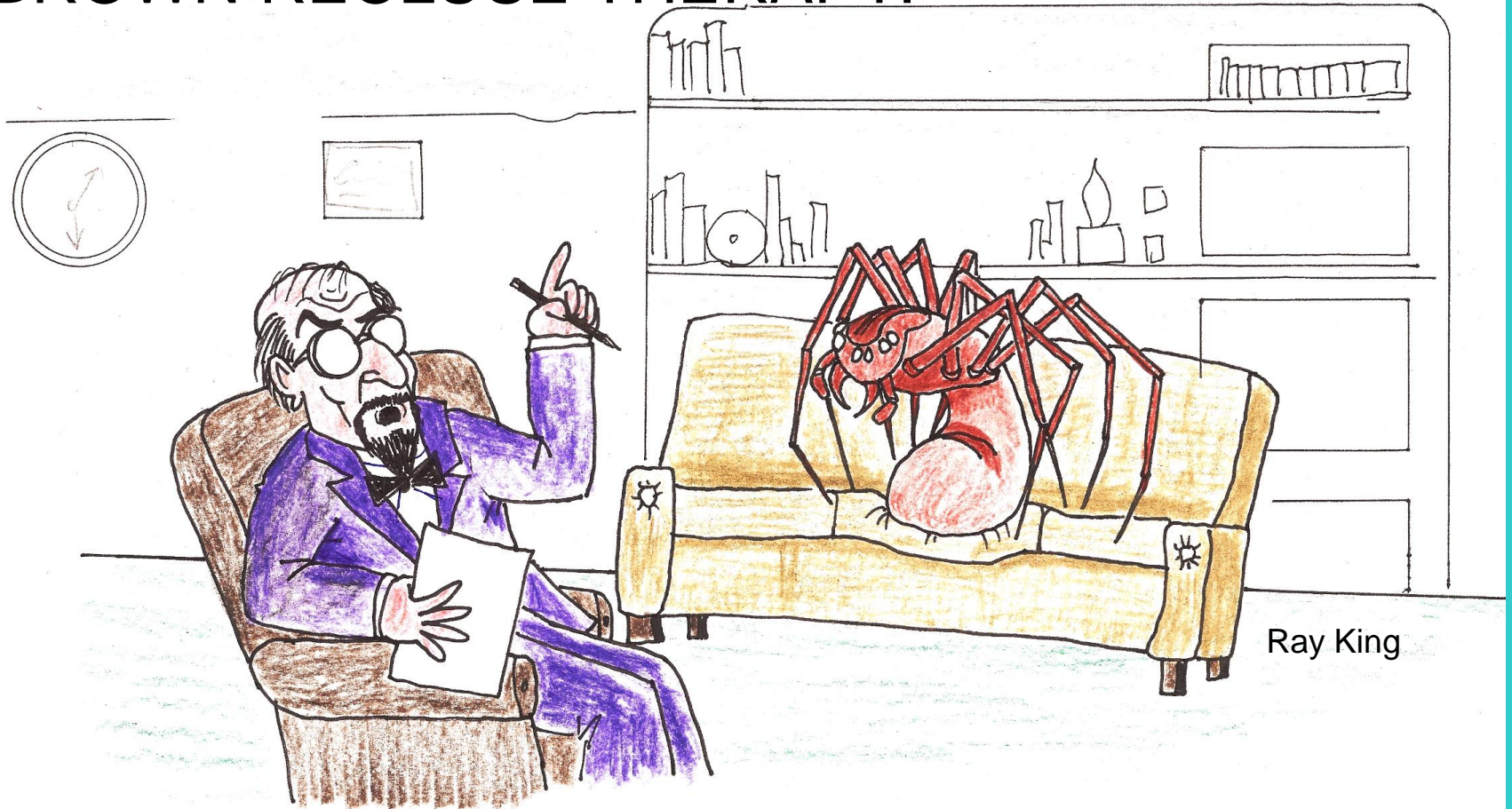


# BROWN RECLUSE THERAPY:



Ray King

"YOUR NEUROTIC IMPULSE FOR RECLUSIVENESS WAS CAUSED BY THE INCIDENT WHEN YOU WERE AN ITSY-BITSY SPIDER AND YOUR MOTHER TRIED TO EAT YOU."

# IDENTIFICATION, BIOLOGY AND BITES OF THE BROWN RECLUSE SPIDER: *LOXOSCELES RECLUSA*

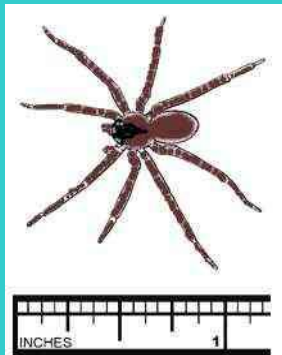


**Violin-Shaped Marking Behind the Six Eyes of the Brown Recluse Spider**

**Family Sicariidae**

# VERY EASY IDENTIFICATION (DESPITE FREQUENT MISIDENTIFICATION)

- VARIATION IN BROWN COLORING FROM YELLOWISH BROWN TO CHOCOLATE BROWN, BUT MOST ARE MEDIUM BROWN.
- NO PRONOUNCED STRIPES (except violin) AND NO SPINES.
- SHORT HAIR ON ABDOMEN AND LEGS.
- LONG LEGS IN PROPORTION TO BODY. SECOND PAIR OF LEGS ARE LONGER THAN OTHER PAIRS IN BOTH SEXES.
- VIOLIN SHAPE ON CEPHALOTHORAX (MATURE ADULTS.)
- SIX EYES IN PAIRS (**NOT LIMITED TO LOXOSCELES.**)
- ADULT SIZE VARIES BUT ABOUT 0.75" TO 1.25". MALES A LITTLE SMALLER WITH SMALLER ABDOMEN.



Brown Recluse Spider



# BROWN RECLUSE EYES

- THREE PAIRS IN SEMI-CIRCLE
- EACH EYE SAME SIZE AS OTHERS



# LOXOSCELES RECLUSA



BROWN RECLUSE SPIDERS ARE OFTEN FOUND IN DENSE POPULATIONS WHEN CONDITIONS ARE RIGHT IN A HOME.

# *LOXOSCELES RECLUSA*



**NOTE DARKER COLOR**

# *LOXOSCELES RECLUSA*



•About 10% of brown recluse bites cause moderate or greater tissue damage and scarring, but the vast majority heal very nicely without medical intervention. There is still not one proven death from brown recluse bite (a person was bitten by a spider caught in the act and properly identified). While there are several highly probable deaths reported in children, these are extremely rare occurrences, about one every decade or so.



# COLOR VARIATION





Brown recluse spiders prefer sheltered areas with low moisture levels. They have been found under loose bark, in hollow logs and under stones. We have created many new habitats which these spiders have successfully exploited.



LOOSE  
PATTERNLESS  
WEB, NOT  
STICKY FOR  
CAPTURING  
PREY.



TYPICAL BROWN  
RECLUSE WEB LOCATION  
IN A POORLY LIGHTED  
TIGHT SPACE.



AMBUSHES PREY FROM  
LAIR BUT MAY ALSO  
WANDER SHORT  
DISTANCES FROM WEB.

PREY NOT WRAPPED  
IN SILK BUT PARALYZED  
WHEN BITTEN.

# OTHER GENERAL BIOLOGY

- LIVES UP TO TWO YEARS IN CAPTIVITY, PROBABLY LONGER IN WILD.
- MOST EGG SACS DEVELOPED BETWEEN MAY AND JULY; UP TO FIVE EGGS SACS PER FEMALE.
- EGG SACS HATCH IN 3 TO 5 WEEKS AND SPIDERLINGS STAY WITH MOTHER FOR TWO MOLTS.
- SPIDERLINGS BECOME ADULTS FOLLOWING YEAR AFTER 6 OR 7 MORE MOLTS.



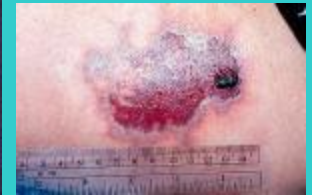
**BROWN RECLUSE BITES AND 'SPIDER BITES' IN GENERAL ARE OVER-DIAGNOSED BY PHYSICIANS (BY THEIR OWN RESEARCH.) BROWN RECLUSE SPIDER BITES ARE OFTEN DIAGNOSED IN STATES WHERE NO LOXOSCELES SP. ARE KNOWN TO EXIST.**



BROWN RECLUSE SPIDERS ARE SHY AND RETIRING SPIDERS THAT DO NOT ATTACK PEOPLE. USUALLY BITES ONLY IN RESPONSE TO INJURY SUCH AS WHEN A PERSON PUTS ON OLD CLOTHING OR ROLLS OVER IN BED.

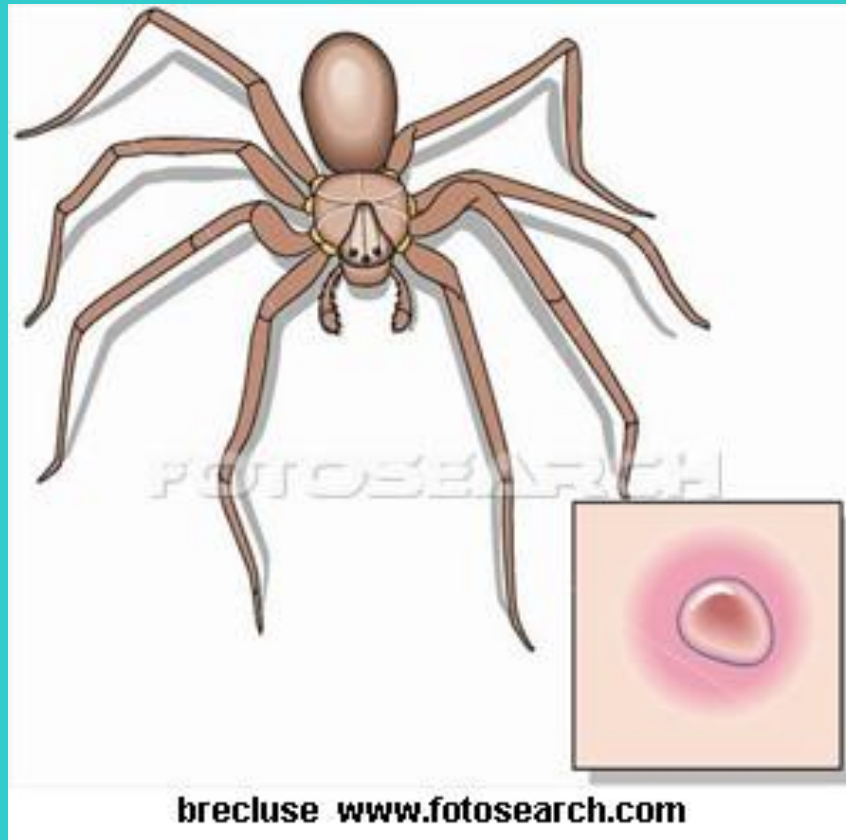
**SPHINGOMYELINASE-D**

A MAJOR DAMAGING PROTEIN IN THE VENOM IS A PHOSPHOLIPASE ENZYME WHICH SEEMS TO BE PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR LESIONS.



# BITE

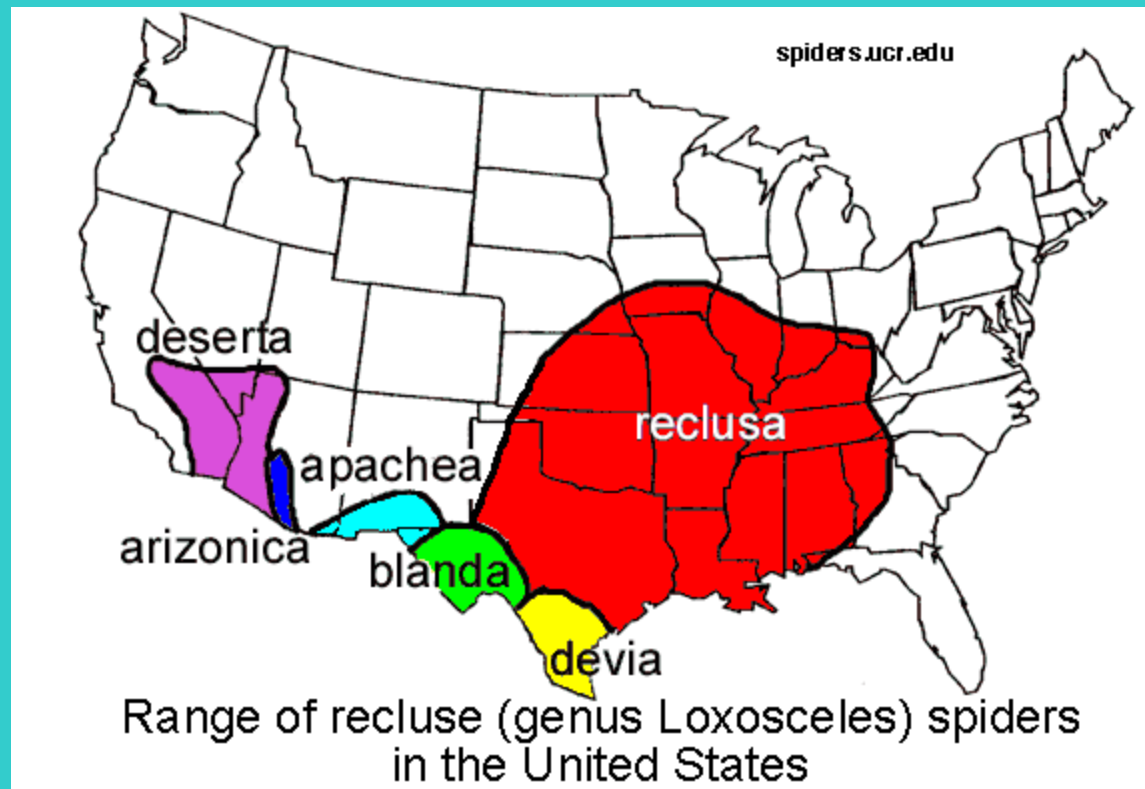
- RED, WHITE AND BLUE





# 13 SPECIES OF LOXOSCELES IN UNITED STATES

- FOUR SPECIES HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH HUMAN REACTIONS BUT 3 LIVE IN ARID DESERT ENVIRONMENTS AND DO NOT TEND TO LIVE IN CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH HUMANS (ONLY *LOXOSCELES RECLUSA*).





## JUMPING SPIDERS:

Alleged to be the most common source of spider bites in U.S. but venom is mild and usually results in no symptoms or a mild local reaction for a day or two. Because they look frightening and jump, people over-react. Unmolested, jumping spiders do not bite. (And aren't they just the coolest things in the world?) ( family **Salticidae**)



# SOUTHERN HOUSE SPIDER

OFTEN CONFUSED WITH BROWN RECLUSE



*genus*  
*Kukulcania*



**MALE OFTEN  
CONFUSED WITH  
BROWN  
RECLUSE**

# SPITTING SPIDERS

## SIX EYES (*Scytodes sp.*)



**EYE PATTERN  
RESEMBLES  
BROWN  
RECLUSE**



# WOLF SPIDERS

family Lycosidae – eight eyes



# WOODLOUSE SPIDERS (genus *DYSTERA*) *SIX EYES, moist habitats*



# Cellar Spiders (family Pholcidae):





# Linyphiidae

## Sheet Weavers





# THANK YOU

