



No hiding place for spiders

Dylan Cope/Dylan Cope Pest Control
via FMC HomeGuard Photo Comp

While many consumers understand the ecological benefits that spiders provide and their important role in the web of life, very few homeowners want to be cohabiting with them inside the house or office. When it comes to spider treatments, it pays to have more than one solution in the toolkit.

With its large stable of products including the reliable Biflex[®] range, FMC offers a number of solutions for spider control, including Fury and Astro[®] Aerosol.

- Astro[®] Aerosol is a long lasting residual insecticide specifically formulated to control crawling insects. The product may be used in three ways; as an effective flushing agent, a fast acting knockdown spray or as a long-lasting surface residual.
- Fury's optimised formula of alpha-Cypermethrin and bifenthrin provide superior knock down power with the established residual.
- Biflex[®] is a broad spectrum, long residual, liquid insecticide for treatment of a wide range of pests.

An important part of the control process is identifying the locations of the spiders around the property. In situations where pest pressure is high and when rapid knockdown and/or maximum residual protection is required Biflex[®] Ultra or Biflex[®] Aqua are ideal. When applying, be sure to contact as many spiders as possible, leaving the webs intact to ensure maximum contact with the product. Pay particular attention to protected dark areas such as eaves and inside garden sheds, as well as other known hiding or resting places such as rubbish bin lips, letter boxes, and underneath outdoor chairs.

For internal situations, the equipment you use needs to be specialised for this purpose. Spray equipment that produces a fine spray to the point of run off will give you the best results. For areas such as cornices and curtain rails, as well as small cracks and crevices, a good option is Astro[®] Aerosol, which

has recently had domestic use added to its label. Astro[®] comes in a ready to use can with extended tip and provides not only residual and knockdown but flushing capabilities, making it ideal for spider control.

However, it is not all about the chemistry. An IPM approach is best, and pest managers can advise their clients to take certain actions to help manage spider populations inside the building.

The first strategy is exclusion. Seal any gaps, cracks, and holes around the outside to prevent spider entry into the building. Also install sweeps on exterior doors and repair damaged screens on doors and windows.

The second strategy is to address the environment inside the building. Reduce clutter, so there are fewer places for spiders to hide and if possible, reduce the moisture levels inside. Also, spiders need a food source to survive. In other words, if you have a spider problem, you may have another pest problem as well, which presents another opportunity to add value for your client by offering a service to inspect and treat for other pests.

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For further information please contact your local FMC representative or visit fmcaustralasia.com.au