

Scottish Spiders



Sampling spiders

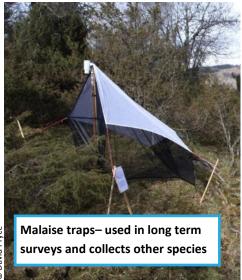
Spiders can be found in a wide range of habitats, from our gardens, meadows, woodlands and even at the top of mountains! You don't need a lot of equipment to search for them— a camera and if you have a pot and hand lens is often enough to get started! Remember that many require examination of adults under a microscope to confirm species! A range of techniques are used when sampling for spiders:



















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Recording spiders

When searching for spiders make a note of what you find! Remember you will need the name of the location, a grid reference (or postcode), the date of when it was found and the name of the recorder—a description of the habitat where the spider was found is always helpful! Take a photo of your spider to help verifiers confirm your species.

Please share your records and information with the Spider Recording Scheme: srs.britishspiders.org.uk/
portal.php/p/Species+surveys

Remember that not all spiders in the UK can be identified in the field without the aid of further examination of a mature adult under a microscope.

You can also upload wildlife records onto iRecord (www.brc.ac.uk/irecord/) even if you only know the family or have managed to get down to genus – every record counts!

There are several books, guides and webpages to help with your identification and improve your confidence and experience of spiders, see the list of useful resources below.

Links to useful resources

Buglife: www.buglife.org.uk/bugs/featured-insects/love-spiders/

British Arachnological Society: britishspiders.org.uk/wiki2015/index.php?title=Main Page

<u>Spider and Harvestman Recording Scheme</u>: srs.britishspiders.org.uk/portal.php/p/Welcome

Spiders of Europe: araneae.nmbe.ch/

Why not get involved with the *Scottish Spider Search*: www.wildlifeinformation.co.uk/scottish spider search.php

<u>Field Study Council</u>— for information on courses and fold out guide to common garden spiders: <u>www.field</u>-studies-council.org/

National Biodiversity Network Atlas for distribution maps of different species: nbnatlas.org/

<u>Facebook</u>— British Spider Identification Group for help with identification: <u>www.facebook.com/groups/</u> BritishSpiderIdentificationGroup/

iSpot for help with identification: www.ispotnature.org/

iRecord to upload wildlife records: www.brc.ac.uk/irecord/

Identification guides:

Collins- Field Guide to Spiders of Britain and Northern Europe by Michael J. Roberts (1996)

Wild Guides- Britain's Spiders a Field Guide by Lawrence Bee, Geoff Oxford and Helen Smith (2017)