



Biology of Spiders

By Rainer Foelix



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One of the only books to treat the whole spider, from its behavior and physiology to its neurobiology and reproductive characteristics, *Biology of Spiders* is considered a classic in spider literature. First published in German in 1979, the book is now in its third edition, and has established itself as the supreme authority on these fascinating creatures.

Containing five hundred new references, this book incorporates the latest research while dispelling many oft-heard myths and misconceptions that surround spiders. Of special interest are chapters on the structure and function of spider webs and silk, as well as those on spider venom. A new subchapter on tarantulas will appeal especially to tarantula keepers and breeders.

The highly accessible text is supplemented by exceptional, high-quality photographs, many of them originals, and detailed diagrams. It will be of interest to arachnologists, entomologists, and zoologists, as well as to academics, students of biology, and the general reader curious about spiders.

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Editorial Review

Review

Praise for Biology of Spiders, 2nd Edition:

"The biology of spiders often receives only cursory treatment in invertebrate zoology textbooks. This superb volume corrects this deficiency. It is an excellent primary textbook for an arachnology course or a supplementary one for an invertebrate zoology or entomology course. It is also a good introduction for anyone interested in this fascinating group of organisms. . . . No other general textbook on spiders exists that is as current and informative as the Biology of Spiders."-The Quarterly Review of Biology

Praise for Biology of Spiders, 2nd Edition:

"The reader who wishes to go beyond the more general books on spiders but not become entangled in highly technical monographs will find this attractive and moderately sized volume rewarding. It is very readable for anyone with a basic understanding of biology and chemistry and, of course, the desire to learn. . . . An excellent choice for undergraduates and above."-Choice

"This is one amazing book. I would call this the ultimate book when it comes to spiders. There is an endless amount of fascinating information for the amateur naturalist like me and for the professional arachnologist. I commend the author and publisher for a book that is of value to both groups. The first edition was written in 1979, but no need to worry about obsolescence: 500 new references have been added since the 2nd edition." -- Mike van den Tillaart

"It remains the first port of call for anyone initiating any study of the spiders, while also becoming an essential reference for established researchers and teachers of invertebrate biology." -- Trends in Ecology and Evolution

Language Notes

Text: English, German (translation)

About the Author

A recognized authority on spiders, Rainer F. Foelix studied Biology in both Germany and Switzerland, and obtained his PhD in Zoology. His spider research started in Peter Witt's lab in Raleigh, NC, and focused on the sensory organs of orb web spiders. His studies were later expanded to other arachnid orders (ticks, scorpions, whip spiders) and to insects and selected vertebrates.

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