



It's Really Going Places.

*Best Management Practices*

## Common Striped Scorpion (*Centruroides vittatus*)

**Background:** The Common Striped Scorpion, *Centruroides vittatus*, is widely distributed throughout the southwestern United States. It is a member of the Bark Scorpion group (*Centruroides spp.*) and is the primary scorpion that infests homes in Texas and Oklahoma. Scorpions will sting if disturbed. While the sting is not generally dangerous it is painful and is followed by local swelling and discoloration.

**Description:** The Striped Scorpion gets its name from two parallel longitudinal dark stripes on the top of its abdomen. This scorpion, about 3 inches long when mature, has four pairs of legs and a five segment posterior terminating at the sting. The scorpion hides during the day under loose bark, rocks, leaves, and tools left in the yard or any place that provides shelter, moisture and potential prey. In areas infested with scorpions, special care must be taken when moving objects on the ground. They are known to infest homes and commercial facilities, living in attics, walls, and crawl spaces. Scorpions are predators only, feeding primarily on insects or other arachnids, coming out to hunt at night. Scorpions have very poor vision, primarily depending on a sense of feel for movement and hunting. Feeling is accomplished using feathery comb-like organs called pectines, located on the underside of a scorpion's body between the last pair of legs. These pectines are used to determine what kind of surface the scorpions are on, in detecting low impulse vibrations, and for chemoreception.

**Management:** If live striped scorpions are encountered in a home or a commercial facility, it is likely that they have already infested the attic, walls, or crawl space. Appropriate treatments for these areas are required.

*Inside the structure:*

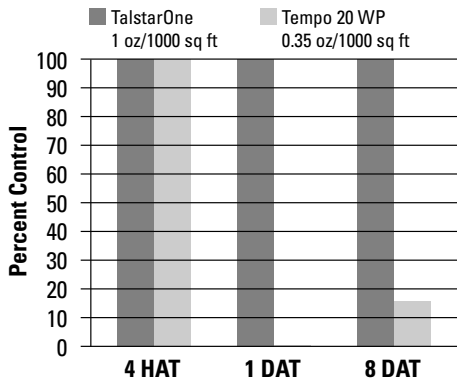
- Dusting or fogging of attic: Use dusts or foggers labeled for scorpions in attics or drop ceilings. Dusts have a longer residual. When treating, focus toward the eaves of homes as the Striped Scorpion tends to nest in these areas. In drop ceilings evidence of infestation may be evident by scorpion carcasses in light covers. In most drop ceilings, dusts will not be appropriate as the dust often falls or filters through spaces around tiles and lights.
- Use dust or fogger in crawl spaces or voids under structures.
- Use dust or crack and crevice aerosols in wall voids. Access walls via electrical outlets (always use caution to avoid shock) or any other penetration into voids.
- Set out glue traps along walls as monitoring and control devices.
- Spot treating corners and areas where scorpions can hide will help reduce their populations. Use TalstarOne™ multi-insecticide in a 0.06% suspension. Apply with a compressed air sprayer using a coarse, low-pressure spray not to exceed 25 PSI. Repeat applications should be limited to no more than once per seven days.

*Outside the structure:*

Once the inside is thoroughly treated with the above recommendations, protect the structure from reinfestation with an exterior barrier

- Perimeter treatment: Treat a 6-to-10-foot-wide band out from the exterior perimeter of structure using TalstarOne™ multi-insecticide in sufficient water (up to 10 gallons per 1000 square feet) to insure 1 fluid ounce of concentrate is applied per 1000 square feet. Focus on entry points: around windows and doors, along foundations, along eaves (remember this scorpion is a very strong climber) or other potential points of entry. Also treat soil adjacent to structure in a 6- to-10-foot-wide band around the house. When infestations are heavy or scorpions within structures have been difficult to control, treat the entire yard with TalstarOne™ multi-insecticide at the 0.06% rate (1 oz./gallon). A surfactant added to the spray solution can greatly increase coverage and can help in control.
- Identify areas near the structure where scorpions may congregate: Under piles of wood or debris, under stones and landscape timbers. Eliminate as many of these potential harborages as possible. Store firewood off of the ground.
- Incorporate exclusion techniques: caulking entry points, weather stripping around doors and windows, and using copper wool to plug weep holes.
- Treat the exterior perimeter with a four-to-six-foot-wide broadcast band of Talstar® PL granular insecticide or Talstar® EZ granular insecticide at a rate of 2.3 pounds per 1000 square feet. Place granules in flowerbeds and areas conducive to moisture and organic matter. This will reduce populations of insects and arachnids and therefore reduce the scorpions' food source. If scorpion pressure is high, treat the whole yard at a broadcast rate of 2.3 pounds per 1000 square feet.

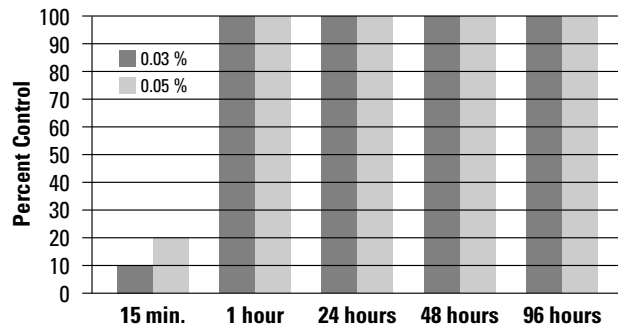
**Residual Control of Scorpions with TalstarOne™ Multi-insecticide**



HAT = Hours After Treatment DAT = Days After Treatment

**Control of Scorpions with TalstarOne™ Multi-insecticide**

Solaris Northern Research Center



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