

# Eliminating Joro Spiders with Ridesco® WG Insecticide

#### Introduction

The Joro spider (*Trichonephila clavata*) is a vividly colored orb-weaving species native to Japan and eastern Asia. First introduced to the United States in 2014, these spiders are now primarily established in Georgia and South Carolina, but their range has expanded to North Carolina, Tennessee, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. They are most conspicuous during the fall, when the females reach their peak size.

### **Biology**

Female Joro spiders can reach a body length of up to 1 ¼ inches, and their total span including legs may extend to 3 inches. Their abdomens are yellow with broad, blue-green bands on the back (dorsal side and); yellow and red markings underneath (ventral side). Their legs are long and black, often with yellow bands.

Male Joro spiders are much smaller, only ¼ in length on average. Their abdomens have two long, yellowish stripes on both sides and a dark brown stripe in the middle. The cephalothorax (fused head and thorax) is light brown, with two long dark brown stripes on both sides.

#### **Behavior**

Joro spiders primarily feed on insects, including flies and mosquitoes, playing a beneficial role in controlling pest populations. The webs of Joro spiders are distinctively large, wheel shaped, strong, and sticky. They may span over 10 ft. and are often woven in high, open areas such as tree branches and eaves. Due to their large bodies and web size, however, most property owners would rather not have them on their property.

During October-November, a female Joro will attach 400-500 eggs to leaves, tree bark, and flat surfaces. The eggs hatch in the spring. The adults then die off and do not overwinter, thus having only one generation per year.

## **Using Ridesco WG against Joro Spiders**

The quick-release formulation of **Ridesco WG** insecticide makes it an excellent option in combating the invasive Joro spider as well as other spider species. In a study in which a direct treatment was applied, **Ridesco WG** had 100% knockdown of Joro spiders in as few as 10 minutes, meaning the spiders were not able to stand, walk or spin webs. This result provides immediate, visible relief to customers without worrying about re-population or re-production once the treatment is applied.



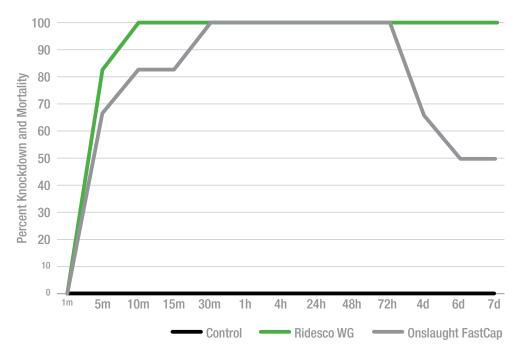
Rebekah D. Wallace, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org

A female Joro spider



During the duration of the study, there was no detoxification/recovery in spiders treated with **Ridesco WG** even after several days. By comparison, Joro spiders treated with Onslaught® FastCap® began to revive and spin webs inside holding containers during the four days post-treatment.





# **Application**

For optimal spider control, apply **Ridesco WG** directly to spiders before they lay eggs in the fall. This disrupts the annual reproduction cycle and leads to fewer Joro spiderlings emerging the following spring.

**Ridesco WG** insecticide's dry formulation offers easy mixing, handling, storage, and transport, and its flexible label integrates seamlessly into pest control programs for diverse pest issues.