

Invertebrates

Invertebrates are an enormous group, and there are undoubtedly dozens upon dozens of species not yet documented on iNaturalist in the preserve. These are only the most common and most noteworthy based on observations to date. The invertebrates in this guide have been separated into three categories:

Arachnids (Page 75)

Insects (Page 88)

Others (Page 118)



Arachnids

Scorpions and tarantulas are quite common in the preserve, especially for visitors venturing out at night on warm days. An ultraviolet (black) light flashlight is a great tool for spotting scorpions - they fluoresce a vivid blue-green color that makes them stand out when they would otherwise be very difficult to see. Scorpions and many spiders can be dangerous. Do not attempt to handle any of them!

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Common name: Stripe-tailed Scorpion

Scientific name: *Paravaejovis spinigerus*

Sightings: Abundant (seasonal - warm months at night only)

Notes: Easily the most common scorpion in the preserve, these can be seen on and alongside the concrete paths at night throughout the warm months. Their sting is painful but typically not dangerous. Note the brown stripes on the relatively thick tail.

Common name: Arizona Bark Scorpion

Scientific name: *Centruroides sculpturatus*

Sightings: Occasional (seasonal - warm months at night only)





Notes: Arizona Bark Scorpions are significantly more dangerous than stripe-tailed scorpions. They are also much less common in the preserve. However, around homes they can be the more common species. Note the long, slender tail. The photo on the preceding page is of a female with babies on its back.

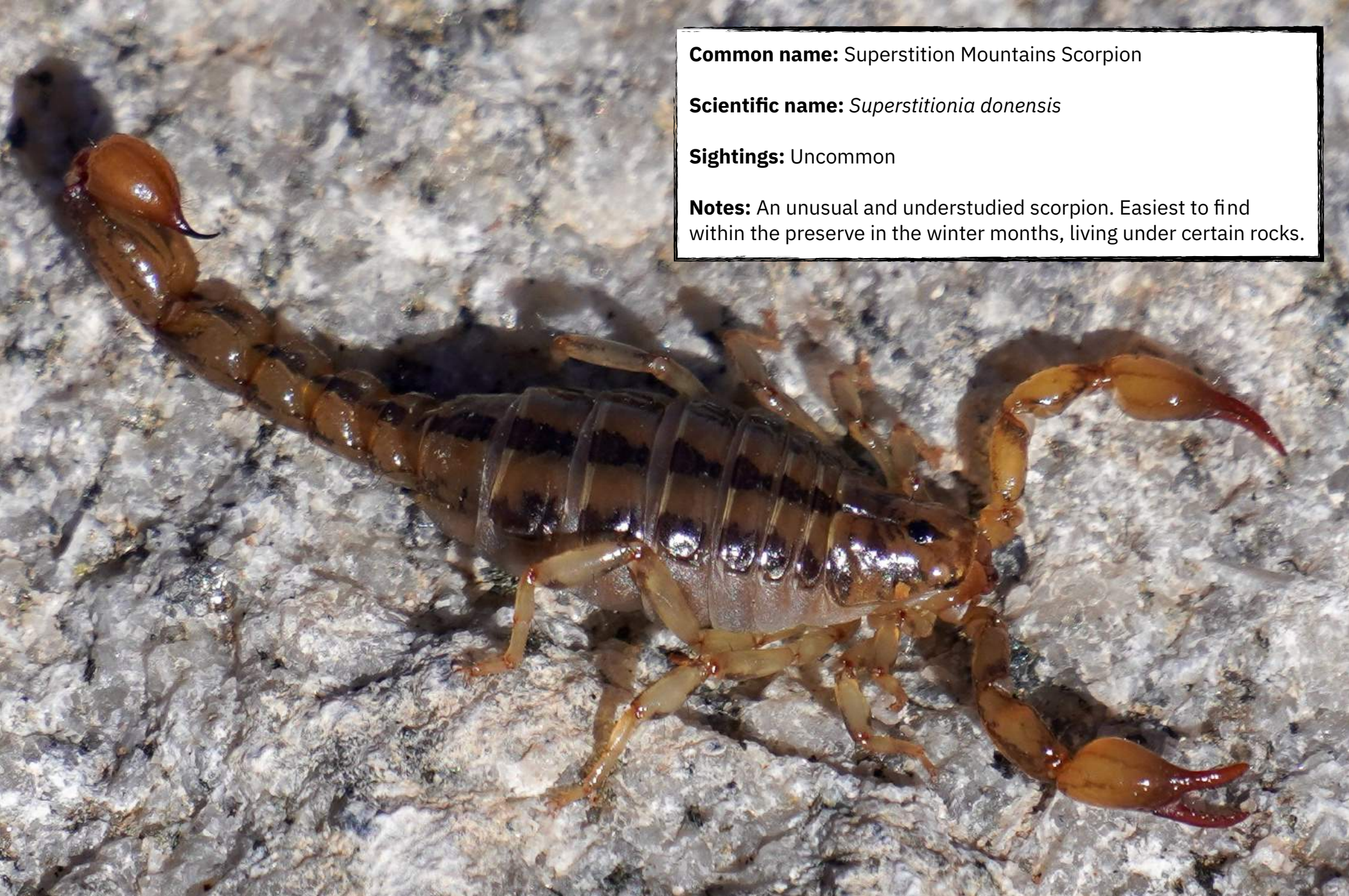
Common name: Desert Hairy Scorpion

Scientific name: *Hadrurus arizonensis*



Sightings: Uncommon

Notes: The largest scorpion found in the preserve, though likely with the least potent venom. These are difficult to find in the preserve. Note the coloration on the back.



Common name: Superstition Mountains Scorpion

Scientific name: *Superstitionia donensis*

Sightings: Uncommon

Notes: An unusual and understudied scorpion. Easiest to find within the preserve in the winter months, living under certain rocks.



Common name: Tailless Whip Scorpion

Scientific name: *Paraphrynus carolynae*

Sightings: Uncommon (seasonal - warm months at night only)

Notes: Hard to spot and uncommon, these arachnids are completely harmless and cannot sting. They have been observed several times in the north part of the preserve.

Common name: Carolina Wolf Spider

Scientific name: *Hogna carolinensis*

Sightings: Abundant (seasonal - warm months at night only)



Notes: Carolina wolf spiders are the most visible spiders in the preserve. They hunt on the trails at night. They have extremely reflective eyes. If you are out wearing a headlamp at night you are likely to spot them by the light reflecting off their eyes. Some can get quite large, but not as big as tarantulas. The spider on the preceding page has babies on its back. This one has prey and is carrying an egg sac.



Common name: Desert
Blonde Tarantula

Scientific name:
Aphonopelma chalcodes

Sightings: Common
(seasonal - warm months at
night only)

Notes: Large, hairy, and
unmistakable, these
impressive spiders are most
often out and away from their
burrows during the monsoon.
The spider pictured is a
female. Males are lankier and
generally have darker hair.



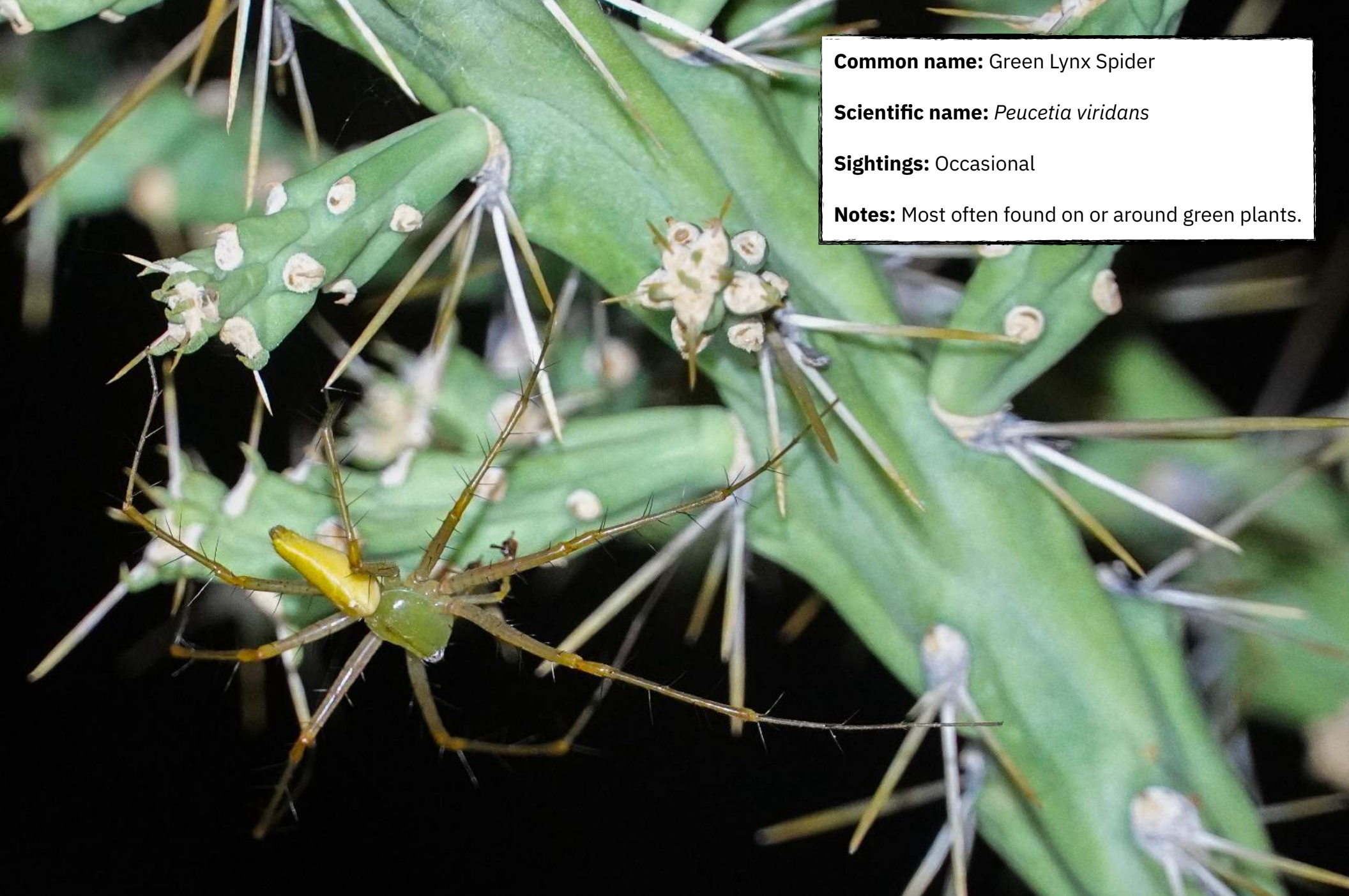
Common name: Western Black Widow

Scientific name: *Latrodectus hesperus*



Sightings: Common (seasonal - warmer months)

Notes: Venomous. The red hourglass shape is not always visible. Avoid contact with spiders within the preserve.



Common name: Green Lynx Spider

Scientific name: *Peucetia viridans*

Sightings: Occasional

Notes: Most often found on or around green plants.



Not Pictured

The species above (two different solifuge and two different spiders) have been observed in the preserve, but not yet definitively identified. Many other species also live here and have yet to be properly identified.