

Harmless

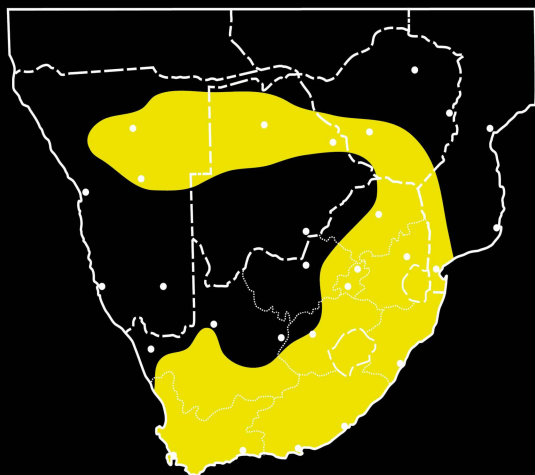


Scorpion Spider

(*Platyoides sp.*)



Maximum size
10 - 20 mm



There are nine species of these strange-looking spiders in southern Africa. They are flattened in profile, usually black with orange to red legs although pure black species occur. They are wonderers and don't build webs. They can be found under the bark of trees or under stones and pot plants. They are secretive and escape as quickly as they can when encountered. They sometimes scuttle sideways much like crabs. They are harmless to humans and pets.



Luke and Ursula Verburgt (Enviro-Insight)