

A Bite Worse Than the "Bark"

Using Temprid® SC Insecticide for Scorpions



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While boasting an Old West charm, luxurious golf courses and a flourishing multicultural scene, Tucson, Ariz. is an ideal city for relaxation. Yet, residents are almost always on their toes, as the city is also home to one of the highest concentrations of scorpions in the country, including the bark scorpion, a species with venom lethal to humans.

Aaron Yubeta is the commercial pest management supervisor for Northwest Exterminating, based in Tucson. Not only are scorpions one of the most challenging pests for him to control, but they are also ubiquitous in several sections of the city, such as the Tortolitas, an upscale community on the north side. "That area is just covered in scorpions. Every house that we treat up there has a severe problem," Yubeta says. "Sometimes houses will have up to 30 scorpions a month."

Yubeta explains that the nearby mountain ranges cause an increase in scorpion populations on the north half of the city. He estimates that 30 to 40 percent of his business in that area is dedicated to these nocturnal, stinging insects, and he's tried various pesticide and non-pesticide measures to manage them.

He has implemented black lights to help locate scorpion populations at night and mechanical methods of control, such as desert guard insulation, sealing cracks and crevices with wire mesh and paintable silicone. "Still, one way or another, they work their way in," he says. "Whether it's a sliding door or some small gap, the small bark scorpions especially find a way to get inside."

The two pesticide products Yubeta traditionally relied on would typically only help to knock the population down, but two or three days later, he would be inundated with callbacks. Yubeta was searching for a better option when a colleague introduced him to Temprid® SC Insecticide from Bayer Environmental Science. "It's one of the only products on the market that is specifically labeled for scorpions, so we gave it a try at one of our client's homes that had a serious infestation, and sure enough, it worked really well."

Temprid SC fuses beta-cyfluthrin and imidacloprid to provide quick knockdown and long residual against



Arizona bark scorpion (*Centruroides sculpturatus*)

more than 50 pests, including ants, spiders, scorpions and other key perimeter pests. It's labeled for indoor and outdoor use and can be applied in and around buildings and structures, as well as on established landscape ornamentals around residential and commercial properties. Not only does Temprid allow for flexible applications, its efficacy also helps to reduce callbacks.

Using a backpack sprayer, Yubeta applied Temprid SC to cracks and crevices around the home. He applied a full perimeter treatment – 18 inches up the walls and 18 inches out into the yard, as well as targeting other areas scorpions tend to frequent in these neighborhoods, such as irrigation control boxes on the lawn. Since the initial treatment, the scorpion population has decreased significantly – none inside the home and a rare sighting of any on the rest of the property.

"The clients are as pleased as we are. They were almost getting used to the problem, as they've had to put up with it so much, but they were surprised at how well the product worked," Yubeta explained.

In fact, he hopes to be able to please even more customers. The reduced callbacks from using Temprid have freed up time at Northwest and the company is taking advantage of it by making more appointments with new clients.

Now that he has achieved such great results, Yubeta plans to switch to Temprid SC for all of his one-time and quarterly services to treat scorpions. "It's just a good product overall for everything I've used it for."