

I ILLINOIS

Extension

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER
& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

*Calhoun, Cass, Greene, Morgan, and
Scott counties*

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Spiders Are Your Friends

In response to many people being at home during the COVID-19 event, an educator in the unit, along with several others in the region, initiated the Good Growing in Illinois Webinars. These webinars are associated with popular [Good Growing blog](#) and [podcast](#). One of the presentations that was recently given by an educator in the unit was Spiders Are Your Friends.



Spiders are among the most misunderstood animals. While a few may be harmful, the vast majority pose no threat to humans and are, in fact, beneficial. The presentation covered some of the common misconceptions surrounding spiders. It also included some of the more commonly encountered spiders in Illinois. Over 65 people attended the live webinar, and it is available for online viewing on the [University of Illinois Extension Horticulture YouTube page](#).

Based on evaluations, participants indicated they increased their general knowledge of spiders well as the types of spiders. Participants also indicated they had a greater appreciation of spiders after attending the webinar and would be more willing to tolerate them. Some additional feedback on the presentation included:

- *Loved this program!!!!!! Great job!!!! Spiders are quite amazing really!!!! Thank you!!!!!!*
- *This webinar was fantastic. It was very informative. I learned a great deal and am planning to watch it again. I've paid for webinars that weren't nearly as good as this one. I hope my tax dollars are going towards this program. It is worth every penny. Thank you.*

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