

NZ Katipo Identification and Management Summary

Katipo Identification

The Katipo is a protected species which is present in this forest. Ernslaw One Ltd is currently undertaking to reduce impacts of our operations on this species and ultimately protect and enhance our populations of this species.



The easiest identifier of the female Katipo is the red stripe along the length of the back with a white border. The female is around the size of a garden pea.

The male Katipo is much smaller than the female with a white abdomen displaying red-orange diamonds along the back.

The main threat is marram grass growing thick over Katipo habitat in place of native dune grasses.

Katipo Management

If Katipo is discovered

- Do not approach any closer
- Mark off a 10 m perimeter around the nest.
- Notify Ernslaw staff

Subsequent Management by Ernslaw

- The area within the perimeter should then be left until after the Katipo breeding season, after which operations , if any, can continue.
- Refer Ernslaw One Limited Katipo Management Plan for further detail.

Health and Safety Hazards

While working in Katipo habitat precautions such as hanging clothing and bags, and shaking out clothing before use will minimise the risk of contact with Katipo spiders

Katipo bites are very uncommon, and while likely to be unpleasant, are not likely to prove lethal.

Typical symptoms include:

- pain at the site of the bite, which may spread to other areas, becoming more intense over the hours that follow.
- Sweating, malaise, fever,
- shaking, and many other symptoms may occur,
- abdominal cramping is particularly common.

Treatment of an icepack may relieve pain and delay the onset of further symptoms.

Anti-venom is available at hospitals.