Scorpion Sting Emergency Protocol

It's not the size of the scorpion or colouration that indicates how venomous it is but the size of the tail compared to the pincers. Southern Africa is inhabited by some of the worlds most venomous scorpions but also the worlds least venomous scorpions. Ultraviolet torches are the first line of defence against scorpion stings.

Venomosity Rule of Thumb

Highly Venomous

Thick tail, thin pincers.



Immediate excruciating pain, may be life threatening.

Mildly Venomous

Medium tail, Thick pincers.



Bee sting like localized pain lasting an hour of so.

Weakly Venomous

Thin tail, thick pincers.



Least Venomous

Pin prick, itches for a few minutes.

Note: If the victim is allergic to bee venom, he or she may also be allergic to scorpion venom!

Do not try to catch the scorpion unless you are properly trained and it is safe to do so. Remove the scorpion from the area if it may cause harm to others. Immediately transport the victim to your medical facility.

> for assistance contact the Poison Information Helpline on South Africa (021) 931-6129

When in doubt regarding a serious scorpion sting get professional medical advice.



Scorpion Adventures

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Jonathan Leeming is author, professional speaker and the leading spider and scorpion training provider. Guest lecturer to the top field guide training schools, and has worked for author scorpions of southern Africa and given lectures for the major lodges groups, conservation organisations, lodges, zoos, universities and museums. Accredited by the Field Guide Association of South Africa, and a member of the International Society for Zoological Sciences.



Importer and distributor of Ultraviolet Scorpion Torches in Southern Africa.