**Fig. S1.** The time taken in minutes (latency) for a starving spider to attack aposymbiotic (Apo, \( n_{apo} = 62 \)) and symbiotic (Sym, \( n_{sym} = 64 \)) beetles once introduced into the arena. Latency did not differ significantly between the treatments (GLMER: \( t = 0.722, p = 0.4704 \))

**Fig. S2.** Melanisation progression in symbiotic and aposymbiotic beetles from day 1 to 7 post-eclosion. Representative images of aposymbiotic (upper row) and symbiotic beetles (lower row).
Fig. S3. Survival probability of young (<24 hours post-eclosion) and old (14 days post-eclosion) symbiotic and aposymbiotic beetles without exposure to *B. bassiana* (controls). Mortality was not significantly influenced by either symbiont status or age (Cox mixed-effects model, p=0.1073; p=0.2837, respectively, n\text{apo}= 45, n\text{sym}= 45).

Table S1. Impact of *Oryzaephilus surinamensis'* symbiont status and age on defence against the entomopathogenic fungus *B. bassiana*. Results of pairwise multiple comparisons following COX- mixed effects models. (Sym= symbiotic, Apo= Aposymbiotic)