Spiders of the UNITED STATES & CANADA



Adventure Quick Guides

SENSING WEB SPIDERS

FAMILY ANTRODIAETIDAE— FOLDING-TRAPDOOR SPIDERS

Live within silk-lined burrows and build an expertly decorated door that blends into surroundings when closed. Silk triplines alert the spider to passing prey. Rarely seen; most often roaming adult males.

FAMILY ATYPIDAE—PURSEWEB SPIDERS

Build silken tubes that extend above and below the ground. Catch small prey that wanders across the purseweb by biting through the silk and pulling prey inside. Rarely seen; most often roaming adult males.

Genus Sphodros



Black Purseweb Spider Sphodros niger, M

FAMILY EUCTENIZIDAE— WAFER-LID TRAPDOOR SPIDERS

Build silk-lined burrows with a hinged lid camou-flaged by nearby materials. Hunt prey that passes its trapdoor. Rarely seen; most often roaming adult males.

Genus Antrodieatus



Antrodiaetus unicolor



Sphodros purseweb



Red-legged Purseweb Spider Sphodros rufipes; M

Genus Myrmekiaphila



Comstock's Wafer-lid Trapdoor Spider Myrmekiaphila comstocki; F

SPACE-FILLING WEB WEAVERS

Genus Steatoda, cont.



Black False Widow Steatoda grossa; F





Eastern Long-legged Cobweaver Theridion frondeum: F



Checkered False Widow Steatoda triangulosa; F



Eastern Long-legged Cobweaver Theridion frondeum: M

AMBUSHING SPIDERS

FAMILY DEINOPIDAE— **NETCASTING SPIDERS**

Hunt at night, using their huge eyes; hairs sensitive to air movement; use leg-held web to snatch nearby flying insects out of the air. Hide during the day, often posing as a twig.

Genus Deinopis



Netcasting Spider Deinopis spinosa; F

Adventure Quick Guides

Quick & Easy Spider Identification

Simple and convenient narrow your choices by type of spider web, and view just a few species at a time

- Pocket-size format—easier than laminated foldouts
- · More than 150 species of spiders
- · Professional photos showing key markings
- · Easy-to-use information for even casual observers
- Key facts about spider anatomy, silk, and behavior



About the Author

Sebastian is your friendly neighborhood science communicator, wildlife photographer, and, of course, spider scientist. Born in Colombia and raised in NYC, he spent most of his life unaware that he is autistic and has ADHD. Sebastian completed his PhD in 2020, studying the courtship dances of paradise spiders, and now works to make science and nature more accessible, inclusive, and joyful for everyone.

NATURE / SPIDERS



