

## Common Alberta Spider Family Cheat Sheet

### General Information:

**PER:** Posterior Eye Row

**PLE:** Posterior Lateral Eyes

**PME:** Posterior Median Eyes

**AER:** Anterior Eye Row

**ALR:** Anterior Lateral Row

**AME:** Anterior Median Row

**LEFT PALP** is used for species ID diagrams in males

Clypeus size is determined based on a ratio between the eye row spacing and the distance from the chelicera base to the lowest eye row. Eye keys *USEFUL* but only sometimes.

**Proper Name** | | Page in North American Spiders Key Book | | Common Name

### **Amaurobiidae** (Pg 69) Hackledmesh Weaver

- Beefy, Cribellate, 3 claw
- Spiny Legs( trichobothria in rows, calamistrum on metatarsus IV 2 bristle rows)
- Two eye Rows

### **Araneidae** (Pg 77) Orb Weavers

- Large Abdomen
- Narrow clypeus
- Vertical Webs

### **Clubionidae** (Pg 89) Sac Spiders

- Wandering
- Pale/Whiteish (in Canada, brown common elsewhere)
- Diverse (Dense tufted claws, long/dark chelicera, closely spaced spinnerets)
- Super straight eye row

### **Dictynidae** (Pg 105) Mesh Web Weaver [some species moved from Dictynidae -> Hahniidae]

- Tiny, Cribellate
- Nocturnal

### **Gnathosidae** (Pg 118) Ground Spider \*\*hard to key

- Widely Spread Cylindrical Spinnerets
- Black/Dark Coloration
- Shorter Legs

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### **Hahniidae** (Pg 124) Dwarf Sheet Spiders

- Small
- Spinnerets in row
- Spiracle moved anteriorly away from spinnerets
- Common in wetlands

### **Linyphiidae** (Pg 137) Sheet Weavers \*\* hard to key

- Mostly Small, Fragile
- High Clypeus
- Horizontal Sheet webs
- Weird Lumpy heads on males
- Palp faced DORSALLY for ID'ing

#### **Erigoninae** (Mini spiders)

- Plated female genitals
- Paracymbium smaller

#### **Linyphins**

- Scaped Female Genitals
- Paracymbium Large

### **Lycosidae** (Pg 179) Wolf Spiders

- 3 Eye rows
- Dome Head
- Easiest

### **Mimetidae** (Pg 183) Pirate Spider

- Long Forelegs with Spines, long spine followed by row of short spines
- Limbs rotated forward

### **Philodromidae** (Pg 208) Running Crab Spiders

- Rotated Coxa on first 2/3 leg pairs
- Longer abdomen than Thomisidae
- Beige/yellow/dirt

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### **Pisauridae** (Pg 218) Fishing Spiders

- Three Eye Rows
- Large

### **Salticidae** (Pg 224) Jumping Spiders

- Huge Median Eye
- Stout legs

### **Tetragnatha** (Pg 252) Longjaw spiders \*\* hard to key

- Longer chelicera/body/legs
- Moist Environments

### **Theridiidae** (Pg 256) Comb Web Spider \*\* hard to key, leg comb important to diff from linyphiid

- Comb on 4<sup>th</sup> leg, first tarsal segment
- Spikier legs
- Like linyphiids, difficult to ID, NOT linyphiids.

### **Thomisidae**(Pg 272) Crab Spiders

- Brown/Ground Dwelling
- Rotated Coxa first 2/3 limb pairs

### **Uloboridae** (Pg 284) Hackled Orb Weaver

- Lack Poison Gland
- Look like mites
- Smaller Orb Weavers, Cribellate