



## New species of the spider genus *Telema* (Araneae, Telemidae) from caves in Guangxi, China

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### Abstract

Eight new species of *Telema* collected from caves in Guangxi (China) are described and illustrated: *T. adunca* **sp. nov.**, *T. biyunensis* **sp. nov.**, *T. cordata* **sp. nov.**, *T. cucurbitina* **sp. nov.**, *T. mikrosphaira* **sp. nov.**, *T. renalis* **sp. nov.**, *T. yashanensis* **sp. nov.** and *T. zonaria* **sp. nov.** All species have a clearly pigmented body, six eyes, and relatively short legs. They differ from congeners and each other in the detailed structure of the spermatheca and male palp.

**Key words:** taxonomy, diagnosis, etymology, variation, distribution

### Introduction

The family Telemidae contains 7 genera and 45 species (Platnick 2010) and is widely distributed in tropical Africa, East and Southeast Asia, North and Central America (Brignoli 1977). Telemids are small, usually less than 2 mm in body length. They can be distinguished from other spiders by the presence of a sclerotized ridge anterodorsally on the abdomen. Females have a dorsal brush composed of short, stout and abruptly tapered macrosetae on the palpal tarsus (Bennett & Ledford 2005). They are usually found in moist conditions, such as in leaf litter, under rocks and in caves (Song *et al.* 1999).

The genus *Telema* was erected by Simon in 1882 for an eyeless spider, *T. tenella* Simon, 1882. Up to now, 28 species of *Telema* have been described (Platnick 2010). Seven of the 23 Chinese species (Song & Zhu