



The spider genus *Tayshaneta* is revised based on results from a three gene phylogenetic analysis (Ledford et al. 2011) and a comprehensive morphological survey using scanning electron (SEM) and compound light microscopy. The morphology and relationships within *Tayshaneta* are discussed and five species-groups are supported by phylogenetic analyses: the *anopica* group, the *coeca* group, the *myopica* group, the *microps* group and the *sandersi* group. Short branch lengths within *Tayshaneta* contrast sharply with the remaining North American genera and are viewed as evidence for a relatively recent radiation of species. Variation in troglomorphic morphology is discussed and compared to patterns found in other Texas cave invertebrates. Several species previously known as single cave endemics have wider ranges than expected, suggesting that some caves are not isolated habitats but instead form part of interconnected karst networks. Distribution maps are compared with karst faunal regions (KFR's) in Central Texas and the implications for the conservation and recovery of *Tayshaneta* species are discussed. Ten new species are described: *T. archambaulti* sp. n., *T. emeraldae* sp. n., *T. fawcetti* sp. n., *T. grubbsi* sp. n., *T. madla* sp. n., *T. oconnorae* sp. n., *T. sandersi* sp. n., *T. sprousei* sp. n., *T. vidrio* sp. n. and *T. whitei* sp. n. The males for three species, *T. anopica* (Gertsch, 1974), *T. devia* (Gertsch, 1974) and *T. microps* (Gertsch, 1974) are described for the first time. *Tayshaneta furtiva* (Gertsch, 1974) and *T. uvaldea* (Gertsch, 1974) are declared *nomina dubia* as the female holotypes are not diagnosable and efforts to locate specimens at the type localities were unsuccessful. All *Tayshaneta* species are thoroughly illustrated, diagnosed and keyed. Distribution maps are also provided highlighting areas of taxonomic ambiguity in need of additional sampling.

SYSTEMATICS, CONSERVATION AND MORPHOLOGY OF THE SPIDER GENUS *TAYSHANETA* (ARANEAE, LEPTONETIDAE) IN CENTRAL TEXAS CAVES

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Tayshaneta archambaulti sp. n.

ZooKeys 167 ♦ 2012
Special Issue

<http://www.zookeys.org>

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