The Assassin Spiders of the family Archaeidae are an ancient and iconic lineage of basal araneomorph spiders, characterised by a specialised araneophagic ecology and unique, ‘pelican-like’ cephalic morphology. Found throughout the rainforests, wet sclerophyll forests and mesic heathlands of south-western, south-eastern and north-eastern Australia, the genus *Austrarchaea* Forster & Platnick, 1984 includes a diverse assemblage of relictual, largely short-range endemic species. With recent dedicated field surveys and significant advances in our understanding of archaeid biology and ecology, numerous new species of assassin spiders have been discovered in the montane subtropical and warm-temperate closed forests of mid-eastern Australia, including several rare or enigmatic taxa and species of conservation concern. This fauna is revised and 17 new species are described from south-eastern Queensland and eastern New South Wales: *A. alani* sp. n., *A. alemae* sp. n., *A. binfordae* sp. n., *A. christopheri* sp. n., *A. clymeae* sp. n., *A. cunninghami* sp. n., *A. dianneae* sp. n., *A. harmsi* sp. n., *A. helenae* sp. n., *A. judyae* sp. n., *A. mascordi* sp. n., *A. meguiganae* sp. n., *A. miledges* sp. n., *A. monteithi* sp. n., *A. platnickorum* sp. n., *A. raveni* sp. n. and *A. smithae* sp. n. Adult specimens of the type species, *A. nodosa* (Forster, 1956) are redescribed from the Lamington Plateau, south-eastern Queensland, and distinguished from the sympatric species *A. dianneae* sp. n. A key to species and a molecular phylogenetic analysis of COI and COII mtDNA sequences complement the species-level taxonomy, with maps, habitat photos, natural history information and conservation assessments provided for all species.
ExcErpts from thE GuidElinEs

AUTHOR GUIDELINES
Authors are kindly requested to submit their manuscript only through the online submission module at www.pensoft.net/journals/zookeys. In case of difficulties with the submission procedure, please contact zookeys@pensoft.net. Full text of author guidelines is available at: http://www.pensoft.net/journals/zookeys.

EXCEPTs FROM thE GUIDELINES

BOOK TEXT. All papers must be in English, checked by a native English-speaking colleague (if author(s) is/are not native English speaker(s)). Write with precision, clarity, and economy. Use the active voice and first person whenever appropriate.

WEB (HTML) TEXT. Authors may include links to other Internet resources in their article. This is especially encouraged in the reference section. When inserting a reference to a web-page, please include the http:// portion of the address.

CITATIONS WITHIN THE TEXT. Before submitting the manuscript, check each citation in the text against the References to ensure that they match exactly. Delete citations from the list if they are not actually cited in the text of the article. Citations in the text should be formatted as follows: (Smith 1990) or (Smith et al. 1998; Brock and Gunderson 2001; Felt 2006).

REFERENCES. It is crucial to properly format the references, because all references will be linked electronically as much as possible to the papers they cite. For all references, list all authors. You can include a DOI number for the full-text article as an alternative to or in addition to traditional volume and page numbers. Please use the following style for the reference list:


Papers containing identification keys will be accepted with priority. Extensive manuscripts consisting mostly of keys will be considered for publishing as well.

ISBN numbers will be assigned to large monographic papers (i.e., major revisions of taxa), monographs, collections of papers, Festschrift volumes, atlases, checklists, and prospecti.

All content is Open Access distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. Authors are thus encouraged to post the pdf files of published papers on their homepages or elsewhere to expedite distribution.

OPEN ACCESS FEES. Publication fees in the open access option ensure a barrier-free distribution of your paper at no charge for the readers and include costs involved in processing, archiving your paper. The journal charges Open Access Publication Fee of EURO 15 per page for papers of less than 100 printed pages. Publication fees for larger papers will be discounted and can be negotiated with the Managing Editor. Open Access Publication Fees are usually covered by institutional funds and grants. Discounts/waivers can be requested by private and retired zoologists, scientists from low- and middle-level income countries, postgraduate students, especially in case of exceptionally good manuscripts. Discounts will be offered also to scientists who actively participate in the reviewing and editing process.

Copyright. Offprints and printed issues of the journal can be purchased additionally (see journal’s website). For standing orders/subscriptions, please contact the Managing Editor.