

## Araneidae: *Gasteracantha*

*Gasteracantha* is found worldwide but currently thought to contain only a single very widely distributed and variable species in the new world. *Gasteracantha* is readily recognizable, though possible to confuse with some species of *Micrathena*.

**Search strategy.** Fairly large and conspicuous, day active, and builds characteristic **ORBWEBS** with silk tufts. **AERIAL SEARCH**

**Needed collecting.** All areas.



*Gasteracantha cancriformis*, photo by M. Kuntner