



## BUTTERFLY PAVILION

### Bold Jumping Spider (*Phidippus audax*)



Countries: United States, Mexico, Canada, Cuba, and Puerto Rico

Habitat: They prefer to live in open areas and are common in fields and grasslands.

Diet: Crop pests including boll weevils, spotted cucumber beetles, bollworms, cotton leaf worm, fall webworm, cotton fleahopper, stink bugs, and mosquitoes.

Predators: Lizards, birds, and dragonflies

Behavior: These spiders do not make webs for catching prey, but when they jump, they generate silk threads as a safety precaution. They do this so that if they fail to make the jump, the silk thread will catch them. They will catch prey that is larger than themselves and will not follow the same hunting strategy each time.

Lifespan: 1-2 years

Growth and Development: Females produce six to eight egg sacs in one season, and each contains between 20-170 eggs. The female will guard the sac until the babies hatch.

Endangered Status: Not Listed

Fun Fact: The Latin word *audax* means “daring, audacious.”



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