

TARTARIDES FROM THE SIJU CAVE, GARO HILLS, ASSAM.

By F. H. GRAVELY, D.Sc., F.A.S.B., Superintendent, Government Museum, Madras.

One mature male and female and four immature specimens were collected at 3,500-3,600 feet from the entrance to the cave, and one immature specimen, apparently of the same species, at 2,500 feet from the entrance. The species is a new one.¹

Schizomus (*s. str.*) **sijuensis**, sp. nov.

The female comes nearest to *S. dispar* according to Hansen and Sørensen's key (1905, p. 39), but differs in its much more acute lower

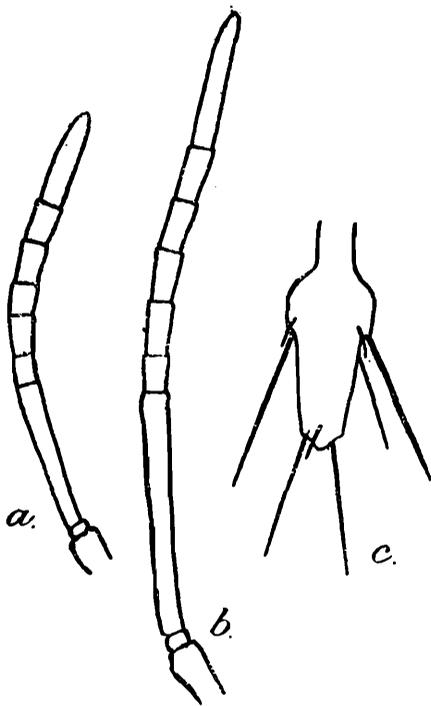


FIG. 1.—*Schizomus sijuensis*, sp. nov.
a. Foot of antenniform leg of female: $\times 30$.
b. Foot of antenniform leg of male: $\times 30$.
c. Caudal appendage of male from above: $\times 30$.

front angle of the palpal trochanter. In this it more closely resembles *S. similis*, Hirst (1913, p. 33, figs. 1-2) from which it is separated by its more slender palps, and *S. cavernicola*, Gravelly (1912, p. 107) from which it is separated by its somewhat more slender build and much greater size as well as by the absence of any greenish tinge in the integuments. *S. cavernicola* was described from "two specimens, both adult females" about 4 mm. long and their relatively dark colouring may almost certainly be taken to indicate that they are mature or nearly so. The present species retains its pale immature colouring till it is larger than this—how much larger the material available does not show—and adult specimens of an ochraceous, not greenish brown are about 9 mm. long. In *S. cavernicola*, moreover, the build is somewhat less slender in all parts than in *S. sijuensis*, the first tarsal joint of the antenniform legs being, for instance, distinctly wider than long (1912, fig. A), whereas in *S. sijuensis* it is about as long as wide in young specimens and a little longer in adults (fig. *a*). In the male all the appendages are longer and consequently more slender than in the female (fig. *b*). In other respects the two sexes are not widely different, except for the usual sexual characteristics in the tail (fig. *c*).

¹ I have not seen Kraepelin's description of *S. sauteri* from Formosa (1911, p. 100), but as no Tartarid is yet known to have more than a very limited geographical range it is most unlikely that this species would be found in Assam.

LIST OF LITERATURE.

- 1905.—Hansen, H. J. and Sörensen, W. "The Tartarides, a Tribe of the Order Pedipalpi." *Ark. f. Zool.* II (8) 78 pp., 7 pl.
- 1912.—Gravely, F. H. "Notes on Pedipalpi in the collection of the Indian Museum (IV). New Oriental Tartarides." *Rec. Ind. Mus.* VII, pp. 107-110, text figs. A-C.
- 1911.—Kraepelin, R. "Neue Beiträge zur Systematik der Gliederspinnen." *Hamburg Jahrb. wiss. Anst.* XXVIII (2), pp. 59-107, 1 pl.
- 1913.—Hirst, S. "Percy Sladen Trust Expedition to the Indian Ocean in 1905. Second Report on Arachnida—the Scorpions, Pedipalpi and supplementary Notes on the Opiliones and Pseudoscorpions." *Trans. Linn. Soc. London* (2) Zool. XVI, pp. 31-37, 7 text-figs.