

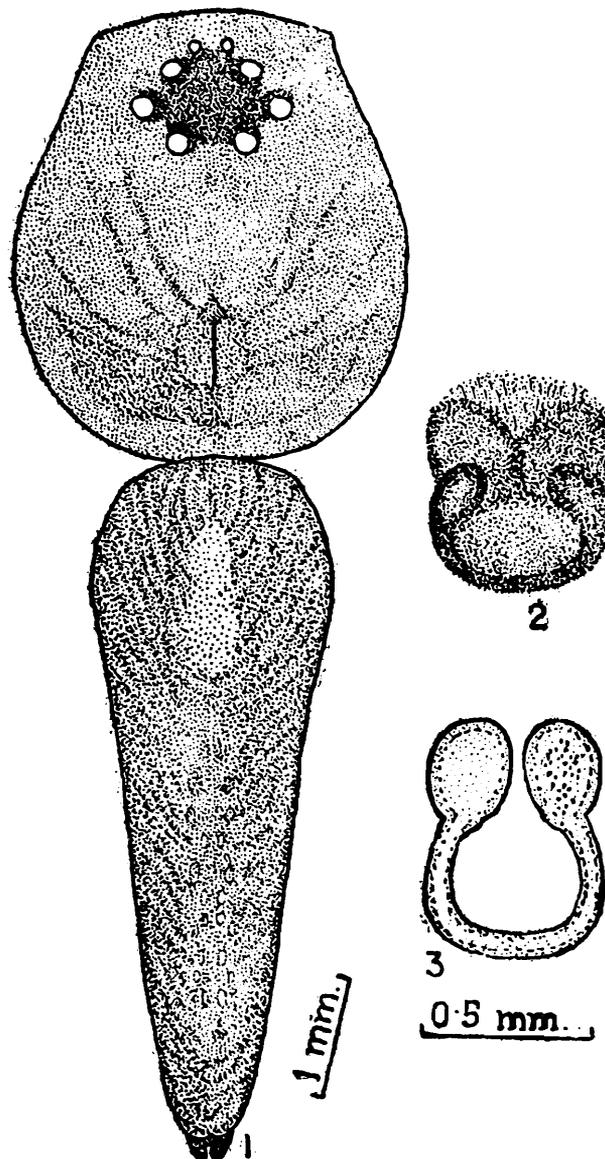
A NEW SPECIES OF *OXYOPES* LATREILLE AND ONE OF
PEUCETIA THORELL FROM UTTAR PRADESH, INDIA
(ARANEAE, FAMILY : OXYOPIDAE)

U. A. GAJBE

*Zoological Survey of India, Central Regional Station,
JABALPUR (M. P.)*

1. *Oxyopes pawani* sp. nov.
(Figs. 1 to 3).

General : Cephalothorax and legs brownish-green ; abdomen dark brown. Total length 9.70 mm. Carapace 3.90 mm. long, 3.20 mm. wide ; abdomen 5.80 mm. long, 2.00 mm. wide.



Figs. 1-3. *Oxyopes pawani* sp. nov.

1. Dorsal view of female, legs omitted. 2. Epigyne. 3. Spermathecae.

Cephalothorax : Longer than wide, convex, with cephalic region high and broad, clothed with white pubescence ; posterior half provided with conspicuous fovea. Anterior row of eyes strongly recurved (as seen from in front), with medians smaller than laterals, and with eyes equally spaced ; posterior row of eyes procurved, with eyes equal in size and equidistant from each other ; all eyes encircled with black patch. Clypeus long, provided with chalk-white patch extending from anterior median eyes to near base of fang of chelicerae. Chelicerae moderately strong ; inner margin provided with one small tooth and outer margin with two dissimilar teeth. Labium and maxillae longer than wide, brownish green ; maxillae provided with scopula. Sternum heart-shaped, pointed behind, provided with hairs and some short spines. Legs relatively long and strong, clothed with hairs and conspicuous long spines.

Abdomen : Long, narrowing behind, clothed with white pubescence and muscular corrugations as in text-fig. 1 ; ventral side provided with midventral black patch and two longitudinal white patches extending from epigastric furrow to base of spinnerets. Epigyne as in text-fig. 2. Spermathecae as in fig. 3.

Male : Unknown.

Holotype : Female in spirit.

Type-locality : INDIA : Uttar Pradesh ; Golakur near Lucknow, date 14. xi. 1976. Coll. P. L. Tondon.

This species closely resembles *Oxyopes sitae* Tikader but differs from it as follows : (I) Clypeus provided with chalk white patch but in *Oxyopes sitae* clypeus provided with two black lines. (II) Abdomen dorsally provided with muscular corrugations but in *Oxyopes sitae* abdomen dorsally provided with longitudinal black lines. (III) Epigyne without sclerotized rim and spermathecae having central cavity larger, oval and seminal receptacle oval with fertilization duct elongate.

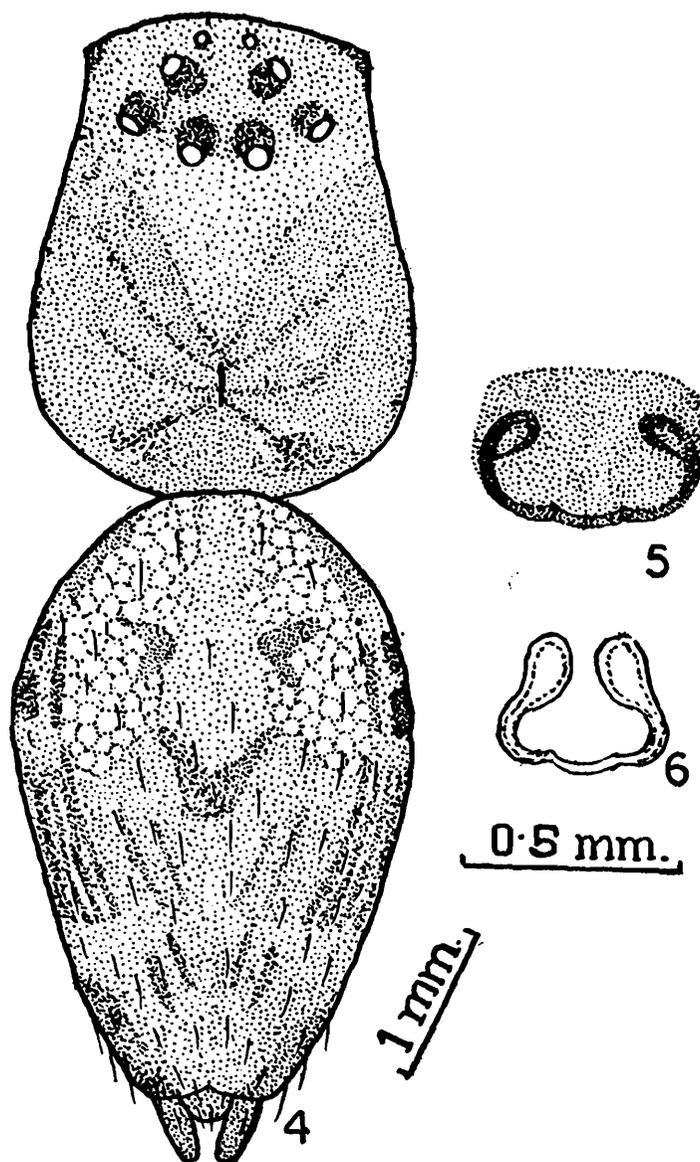
2. *Peucetia ketani* sp. nov.

(Fig. 4 to 6)

General : Cephalothorax and legs brownish-green ; abdomen dirty chalk white. Total length 7.30 mm. Carapace 3.20 mm. long, 2.50 mm. wide ; abdomen 4.10 mm. long, 2.60 mm. wide.

Cephalothorax : Longer than wide, moderately high, clothed with pubescence and few short spines, provided with conspicuous short fovea on posterior half. Anterior row of eyes strongly recurved, with anterior medians smaller than laterals and with eyes equally spaced ; posterior row of eyes slightly procurved, with eyes equidistant from each other and equal in size. Clypeus long. Chelicerae moderately strong. Labium and maxillae longer than wide and provided with scopula. Sternum oval, pointed behind, clothed with hairs. Legs relatively long, clothed with hairs and spines.

Abdomen : Longer than wide, narrowing behind, clothed with hairs and some spines, provided with some black patches and mid dorsally with silvery white patches as



Figs. 4-6. *Peucetia ketani* sp. nov.

4. Dorsal view of femame, legs omitted. 5. Epigyne. 6. Spermathecae.

in fig. 4. Ventral side same in colour as dorsal but provided with a deep brown longitudinal band extending from epigastric furrow to base of spinnerets. Epigyne as in fig. 5. Spermathecae as in fig. 6.

Male : Unknown

Holotype : Female in spirit

Type-locality : INDIA : Uttar Pradesh, Golakum near Lucknow, date 14-xi-1976.

Coll. *P.L.Tondon.*

This species closely resembles *Peucetia latikae* Tikader but differs from it as follows : (I) Clypeus without black lines but in *Peucetia latikae* clypeus provided with

black lines. (II) Cephalothorax with black spots but in *Peucetia latikae* cephalothorax provided with conspicuous black spots. (III) Abdomen dorsally provided with black and silvery white patches but in *Peucetia latikae* abdomen provided with longitudinal brown band. (IV) Epigyne with sclerotized rim and spermathecae having central cavity larger, nearly triangular and seminal receptacle curved with fertilization duct small.

SUMMARY

The present paper deals with two new species, *Oxyopes pawani* and *Peucetia ketani*, from Uttar Pradesh, India.

Spiders of the family Oxyopidae have received very little attention in India. Pocock (1901, 1901) described four and three new species of *Oxyopes* and *Peucetia* respectively. Sherriff (1951) redescribed and figured Pocock's species of *Oxyopes* found in the oriental region. Tikader (1965, 1969, 1970) described a number of species of Oxyopidae from India.

Recently while examining a spider collection received from Dr. K. L. Chadha, Project Coordinator, Central Mango Research Station, Mahanagar, Lucknow, I came across two species of the genera *Oxyopes* and *Peucetia* which are described here as new to science.

The type specimens will be deposited in the National Zoological collections, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am thankful to Dr. B. K. Tikader, Former Director, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, for guidance and encouragement. I am thankful to Dr. K. Reddiah, Deputy Director, Zoological Survey of India, Central Regional Station, Jabalpur, for necessary working facilities and to Shri Satish Fadnavis of this station for some drawings.

REFERENCES

- Biswas, A. T. 1975. A new species of spider of the genus *Peucetia* Thorell (Family : Oxyopidae) from Orissa, India, *Curr.Sci.*, **44** (10) : 350-351.
- Brady, A. R. 1964. The lynx spiders of North America north of Mexico (Araneae : Oxyopidae) *Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool.* Harvard University, **131** (13) : 431-518.
- Pocock, R. I. 1900. *Fauna of British India, Arachnida*, London.

- Pocock, R. I. 1901. Descriptions of some new species of spiders from British India. *J. Bombay nat Hist. Soc.*, **13** (3) : 478-494.
- Sherriff, W. R. 1951. Some oriental spiders of the genus *Oxyopes*. *Proc. Zool. Soc. London*, **120** : 651-677.
- Tikader, B. K. 1965. On some new species of spiders of the family Oxyopidae from India. *Proc. Indian Acad. Sci.*, **62 B** (3) : 140-144.
- Tikader, B. K. 1969. Studies on some spiders of the family Oxyopidae from India. *Oriental Insects*, **3** (1) : 33-36.
- Tikader, B. K. 1970. Spider fauna of Sikkim. *Rec. zool. Surv. India*, **64** (1-4) : 69-81.