

**A NEW SPECIES OF SPIDER OF THE GENUS *PARDOSA*
KOCH (ARANEAE : LYCOSIDAE) FROM MADHYA PRADESH.**

U.A. GAJBE AND PAWAN GAJBE*

Zoological Survey of India, Central Regional Station, Jabalpur

The genus *Pardosa* was established by Koch in the year 1848, with the type-species *Pardosa striatipes* Koch. Since the establishment of the genus only 25 species are known from India. Tikader & Malhotra (1980) reillustrated and redescribed all the species in *Fauna of India* volume, with some new species.

While studying the spiders of the family Lycosidae the authors came across a new species of *Pardosa* which is described here.

The type specimen will in due course be deposited in the National Collection of Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

***Pardosa jabalpurensis* sp. nov.**

General : Cephalothorax and legs light reddish brown, abdomen dark brown. Total length 11.00 mm. Carapace 4.50 mm long, 4.0 mm wide ; abdomen 6.10 mm. long, 4.0 mm wide.

Cephalothroax : Longer than wide, convex, cephalic region slightly higher and narrowing in front, clothed with pubescence and some hairs and spine like hairs on the clypeus. Centre of thoracic region with a fovea from which small deep brown patches radiate to the lateral side. Ocular area deep brown. Anterior row of eyes slightly recurved, less wider than the second row, medians slightly larger than the laterals and closer to laterals than to each other. Eyes of second row larger than the other. Ocular quad wider behind and narrowing in front. Bases of posterior eyes provided with conspicuous black patches as in fig. 1. Space enclosed between posterior eyes wider posteriorly and narrowing anteriorly. Sternum heart-shaped, pointed posteriorly, light reddish yellow and clothed with pubescence and small spine like hairs. Labium nearly as long as wide and pale yellow in colour. Distal end of maxillae broader and provided with conspicuous scopulae. Chelicerae moderately strong, inner margin provided with three teeth and outer margin without teeth. Legs thin and long, clothed with spines and hairs and uniform in colour.

Abdomen : Longer than wide, widest at the middle, pointed behind, clothed with pubescence and some hairs. Abdomen middorsally provided with two white patches and round white spots throughout the abdomen. Ventral side lighter than the dorsal. Epigyne as in fig. 2. Internal genitalia as in fig. 3.

* Government Autonomous Science College, Jabalpur.

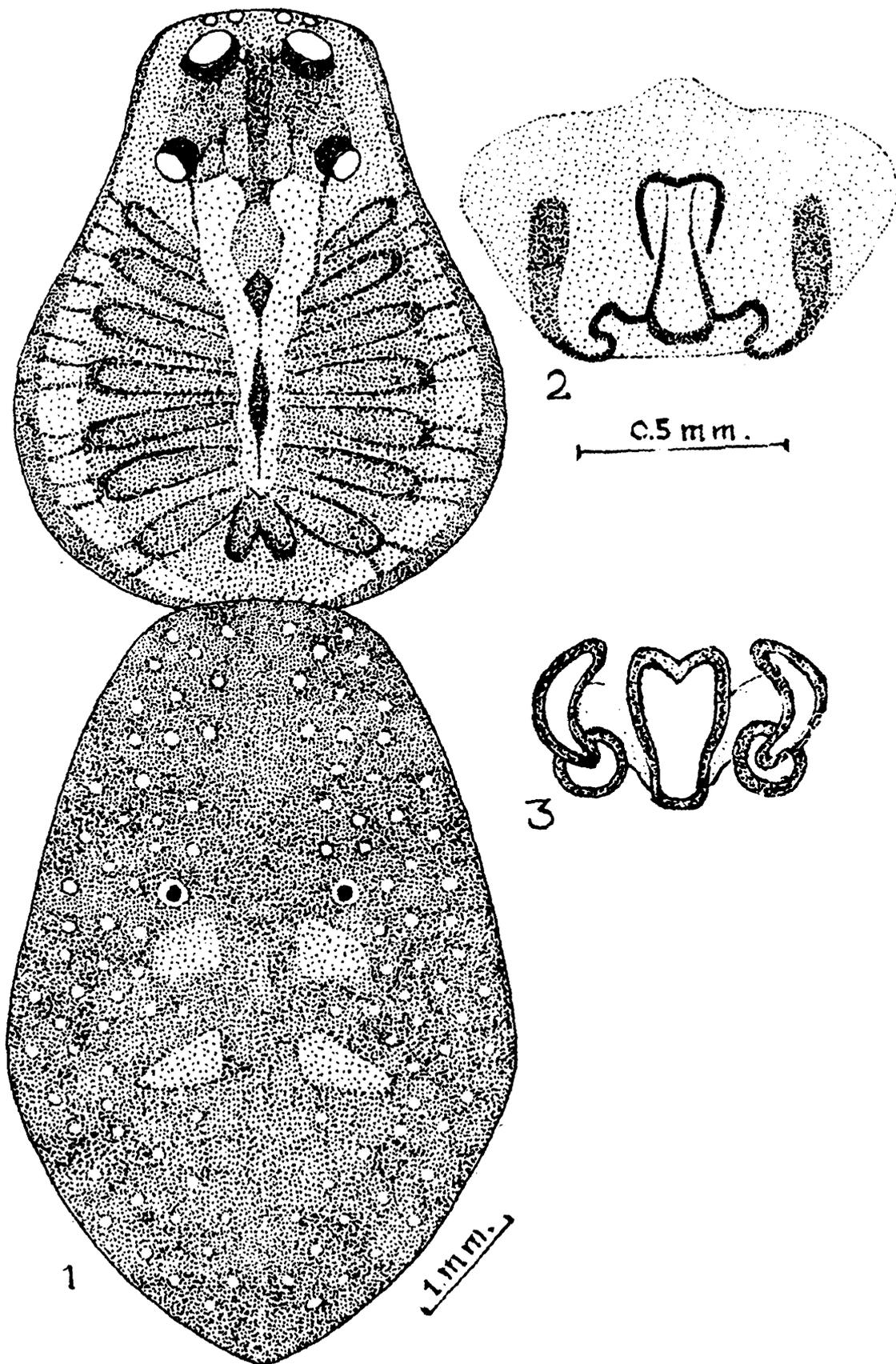


Fig. 1-3. *Pardosa jabalpurensis* sp. nov.

1. Dorsal view of female, legs omitted ; 2. Epigyne ; 3. Internal genitalia.

Type-specimen : *Holotype* female in spirit, other details as above.

Type-locality : Sanjivani Nagar, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, Coll. *Pawan Gajbe*, 14. VIII.1997.

This species closely resembles *Pardosa sumatrana* (Thorell) but differs from it as follows : (i) Legs dorsally without irregular greenish brown patches but in *P. sumatrana* legs dorsally with irregular greenish brown patches. (ii) Abdomen mid-dorsally with two white patches but in *p. sumatrana* abdomen provided with dark brown and pale patches and black spots. (iii) Epigyne and internal genitalia also structurally different.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are thankful to Dr. J.R.B. Alfred, Director, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, for facilities and to Shri K. Vinod, Stenographer, of this station for typing the manuscript.

REFERENCE

Tikader, B.K. and Malhotra, M.S. 1980. *Fauna of India, Spiders*, **1** (2) : 249-446.