

in two rows; lateral eyes located on protuberance with greenish tinge, antero-lateral eyes largest. Cephalic region and clypeus with few spine-like hair, a spine-like hair present below each postero-lateral eye as in fig. 1. Maxillae dumbbell-shaped; labium slightly darker, as long as wide. Sternum heart-shaped, light brown, clothed with few hair. Legs I and II much longer than III and IV; femur I with two dorsal spines and three tiny dark brown spots as in fig. 2, femur II with one dorsal spine; tibiae and metatarsi I and II with a few long and prominent ventral spines.

Abdomen : Longer than wide, broadest just behind the middle, laterally with dark brown stripes; dorsum with three light brown spots in the anterior region, two oval blackish-brown spots in the middle region and two small black spots in the posterior region as in fig. 1. Ventral side lighter in colour, laterally with brownish stripes, the area between epigynal furrow and spinnerets with a light brown patch. Spinnerets clothed with hair, anterior- and posterior spinnerets equal in size. Epigyne present just above the epigynal furrow, appears as in fig. 3. Male unknown.

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

Type locality : Sitadongri, Delakhari, Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve, Chhindwara district, Madhya Pradesh, India; coll. Y. N. Gupta, 18.x.2002.

Etymology : The specific name is a noun taken in appropriation from the type locality.

This species resembles *Runcinia chauhani* Sen & Basu but can be distinguished from it as follows : (i) A longitudinal narrow chalk white stripe present in the middle region of cephalothorax but absent in *R. chauhani*. (ii) A spine-like hair present below each postero-lateral eye but absent in *R. chauhani*. (iii) Two small black spots present in the posterior region of abdomen but absent in *R. chauhani*. (iv) Femur I with two dorsal spines and three tiny dark brown spots but in *R. chauhani* with four dorsal spines only. (v) Structure of epigyne different in both species.

Genus II. *Thomisus* Walckenaer, 1805

1980. *Thomisus* Tikadar, *Fauna of India, Spiders*, 1(1) : 30.

Diagnosis : Cephalothorax truncated in front, with the upper fore-corners strongly and conically protuberant and divergent, bearing the lateral eyes. Eyes small, black, antero-laterals largest. Abdomen narrow and truncated in front, enlarging to a considerable width behind, where at either corner of the dorsal side is a short blunt conical protuberance. Legs long, I and II much longer than III and IV.

Type species : *Thomisus onustus* Walckenaer, 1805.

Distribution : Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia and America.

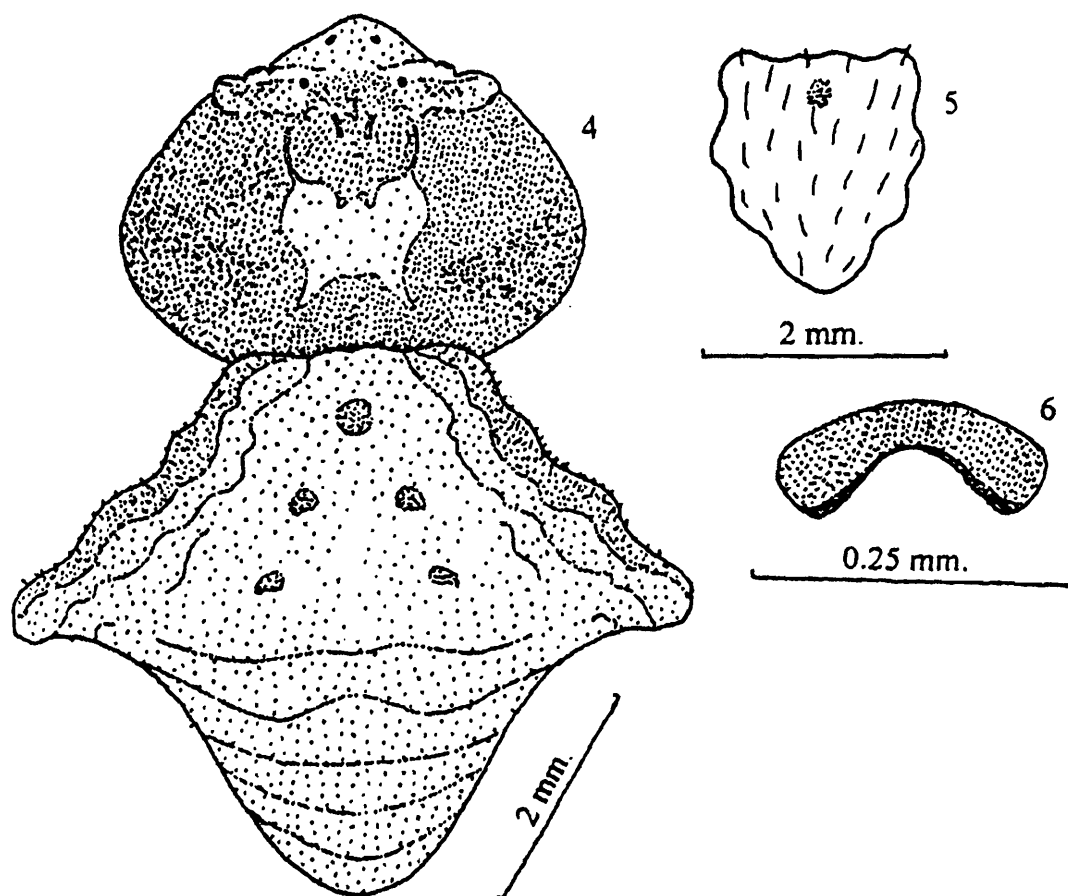
2. *Thomisus baghdeoi* sp. nov.

(Figs. 4-6)

General : Cephalothorax dark brown, legs and abdomen dark brown. Total length 7.5 mm. Cephalothorax 2.5 mm. long, 4.0 mm, wide; abdomen 5.0 mm. long, 6.0 mm. wide.

Cephalothorax : Wider than long, middle region with a heart-shaped light brown patch, postero-lateral region slightly darker as in fig. 4. Ocular protuberance light brown. Maxilla and labium light brown, clothed with hair, labium longer than wide. Sternum light brown, heart-shaped, clothed with hair, a small brownish spot present in the anterior region as in fig. 5. Chelicera light brown, clothed with hair. Legs clothed with hair, provided with some whitish patches, metatarsus I with five pairs of ventral spines.

Abdomen : Pentagonal, wider than long, strongly overlapping cephalothorax, ending in two raised tubercles, antero-lateral region blackish-brown, anterior end and antero-lateral border covered with light brown setae as in fig. 4. Dorsum depressed, with muscular corrugations laterally and posteriorly, provided with five dark brown spots as in fig. 4. Ventral region with transverse muscular corrugations. Spinnerets dark brown, anterior spinnerets thicker than others. Epigyne consisting of a sclerotised plate with an inverted U-shaped dark brown marking as in fig. 6. Male unknown.



Figs. 4-6. *Thomisus baghdeoi* sp. nov. 4. Dorsal view of female, legs omitted. 5. Sternum. 6. Epigyne.

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

Type locality : Baghdeo, Pench Tiger Reserve, Seoni district, Madhya Pradesh, India; coll. M. L. Koshta, 27.vii.2001.

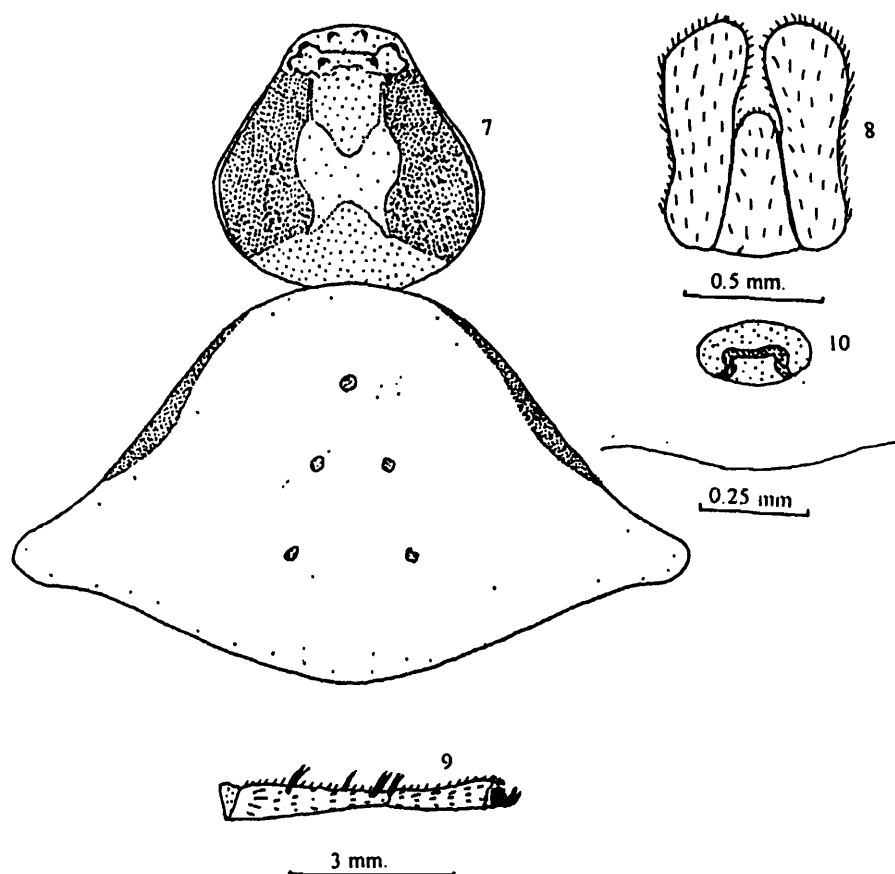
Etymology : The specific name refers to the type locality.

This species resembles *Thomisus projectus* Tikader but can be distinguished from it as follows : (i) Cephalothorax and abdomen dark brown but in *T. projectus* cephalothorax greenish and abdomen chalk white. (ii) Middle region of cephalothorax with a heart-shaped light brown patch, which is absent in *T. projectus*. (iii) Anterior region of sternum with a small brownish spot. (iv) Anterior end and antero-lateral border of abdomen covered with light brown setae. (v) Raised tubercles of abdomen without any spots but in *T. projectus* each tubercle with a black spot. (vi) Structure of epigyne different in both species.

3. *Thomisus kokiwadai* sp. nov.

(Figs. 7-10)

General : Cephalothorax dark brown, legs light brown and abdomen chalk white. Total length 12.0 mm. Carapace 4.5 mm. long, 4.5 mm. wide; abdomen 7.5 mm. long, 12.0 mm. wide.



Figs. 7-10. *Thomisus kokiwadai* sp. nov. 7. Dorsal view of female, legs omitted. 8. Labium and maxillae. 9. Ventral view of I metatarsus. 10. Epigyne.