

**DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF EUTICHURUS
(ARANEAE : CLUBIONIDAE) FROM INDIA**

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INTRODUCTION

The family Clubionidae is known from India through the works of Pocock (1900), Gravely (1921,1923), Reimoser (1934), Tikader (1962,1975,1976,1977,1981), Tikader and Biswas (1981) and Biswas (1984), who present a total of 72 species under 14 genera. Recently, Majumder and Tikader (inpress), in their comprehensive work on Clubionidae, added 12 new species to raise the total to 84 from India. While examining some specimens collected from Assam, the author came across a new species of *Eutichurus* which is described in this paper. This, in fact, is the second species of this genus described from the Indian Sub-continent.

The type specimen is deposited in the National Zoological collection of the Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

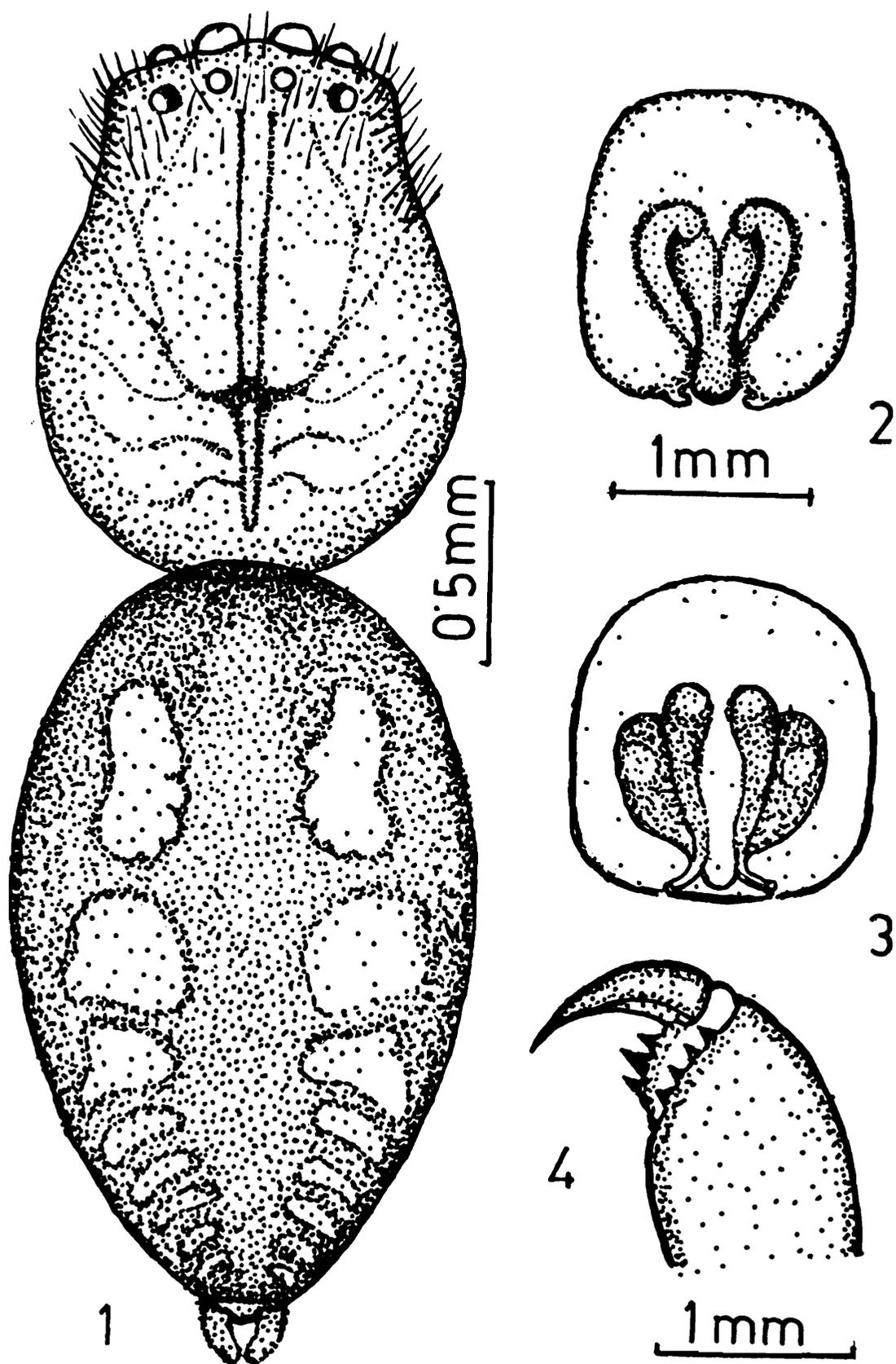
***Eutichurus* Simon**

1897. *Eutichurus* Simon, *Hist. Nat. Araianees* 2, pt. 1 : 88

Characters: Cephalothorax longer than wide, covered with long feathery hair, provided with distinct fovea. Eyes in two rows (anterior and posterior), silvery white in colour, with space between eyes three times longer than diameter of posterior median eyes; anterior row straight or slightly recurved, and posterior row procurved; anterior medians two times larger than posterior medians; both medians remote from laterals and close to each other; ocular quadrangle wider than long. Chelicerae strong and stout, more or less parallel. Maxillae and labium longer than wide; maxillae with no depression at the middle. Sternum heart-shaped, covered by long curved black spine-like hair. Legs not very long, strong and stout: leg formula 1243; coxa and trochanter often covered with yellowish hair; tibia having same length as patella; tibial apophysis of male palp straight or slightly curved. Abdomen elongated in shape, covered with long spine-like hair. Female genitalia with convex and elongated plate, black and hairy anteriorly.

***Eutichurus tezpurensis* sp.nov.**
(Figs. 1-4)

General : Cephalothorax reddish brown; legs brown; abdomen deep brown with yellowish ornamentation. Total length 15.00 mm. Carapace 6.00 mm. long, 5.00 mm. wide; abdomen 8.50 mm. long, 5.40 mm. wide.



Eutichurus tezourensis

1. Dorsal view of female legs omitted. 2. Epigyne. 3. Spermathecae. 4. Left chelicera, retrolateral view.

Cephalothorax : Longer than wide narrow and convex anteriorly, broad posteriorly, covered with fine spine-like hair, with distinct fovea just behind middle of carapace. Clypeus narrow and slanting. Eyes in two rows (anterior and posterior), silvery white in colour, small in size and approximately equal spaced; anterior row slightly recurved, with medians two times larger than posterior medians and close to each other; posterior row recurved, longer than anterior row, with medians smaller than laterals and closer to each other than to the laterals; ocular quadrangle wider than long, narrow anteriorly and broad posteriorly. Chelicerae (Fig. 4) strong and stout, blackish in colour, covered with long black spine-like hair; inner and outer margin provided with four and three teeth respectively. Maxillae and labium longer than wide, maxillae not depressed at middle, anteriorly wider; labium wider posteriorly, narrower and scopulated anteriorly. Sternum heart-shaped, blackish in colour, covered by number of curved black hair. Legs strong and stout and not very long; leg formula 1243; tibiae and metatarsi of I and II provided respectively with four pairs and one pair of ventral spines; femora provided with two pairs of dorsal spines; tarsi relatively short and provided with two claws and thick claw tufts.

Abdomen : Spindle-shaped, longer than wide, covered by long whitish spine-like hair, with blackish patches on either side. Epigyne rounded anteriorly, with conspicuous rounded copulatory opening on either side as in figs. 2,3.

Holotype : Female in spirit, deposited at Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, Regd. No. 5172/18.

Type locality : Holotype from Tezpur, Assam, India, 14.i.1981, coll. K.Chatterjee.

Distribution : India : Tamil Nadu, Assam.

Remarks : This species resembles *Eutichurus chingliputensis* (in press) Majumder and Tikader but differ from it on the following points : 1. The posterior row of eyes recurved whereas in *E. chingliputensis* procurved. 2. The tibia of legs I and II provided with four pairs of ventral spines whereas in *E. chingliputensis* five pairs. 3. Epigyne and spermathecae also structurally different.

SUMMARY

A new species under the genus *Eutichurus* Simon, *E. tezpurensis*, is described and illustrated from the female sex. This species is the second under this genus described from the Indian Sub-continent.

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