

A NEW *LIODRASSUS* SPIDER FROM INDIA
(ARANEAE : GNAPHOSIDAE)

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INTRODUCTION

A new species of the genus *Liodrassus* Chamberlin, 1936, from Jabalpur District, M. P., belonging to the family Gnaphosidae is described.

MATERIAL

The description is based on one female specimen.

The genus *Liodrassus* was established by Chamberlin (1936) with *L. arizonicus* as type species from North America. Tikader and Gajbe (1977) reported this genus for the first time from India and described one species.

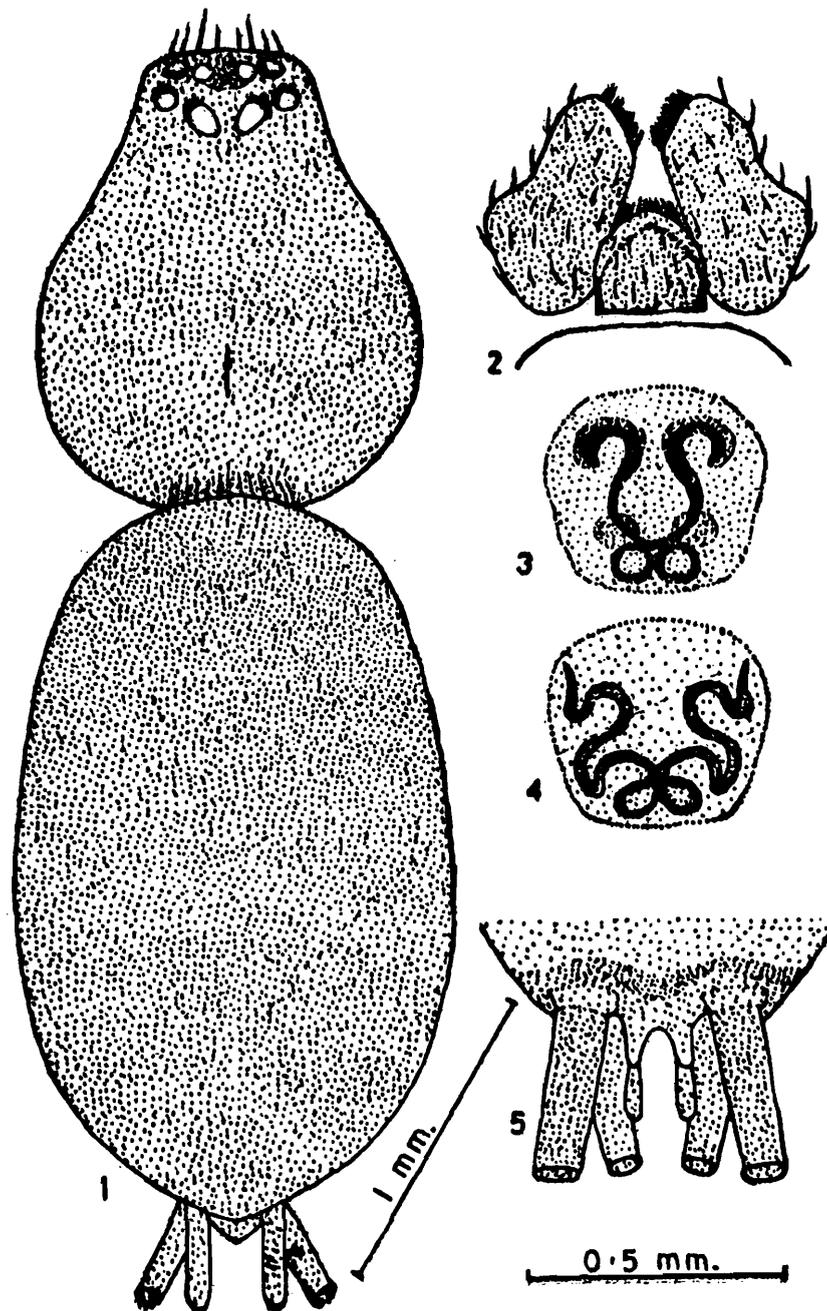
While studying the spiders of the family Gnaphosidae the author encountered a new species of *Liodrassus* which is described here as a second species from India.

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

The species is named after Dr. B. K. Tikader, a wellknown arachnologist, as a token of the high regard which the author has for him.

Liodrassus tikaderi sp. nov.

General : Cephalothorax and legs reddish-green ; abdomen brown. Total length 3.80 mm. Carapace 1.50 mm. long, 1.20 mm. wide ; abdomen 2.40 mm. long, 1.40 mm. wide.



Figs. 1-5. *Liodrassus tikaderi* sp. nov.

Fig. 1. Dorsal view of female, legs omitted.

Fig. 2. Labium and maxillae.

Fig. 3. Epigyne.

Fig. 4. Spermathecae.

Fig. 5. Spinnerets.

Cephalothorax : Longer than wide, convex, narrow in front, with cephalic region slightly high ; posterior middle provided with an inconspicuous fovea and clothed with pubescence. Eyes pearly white except anterior medians which are circular and black ; posterior row of eyes slightly longer than anterior row. Anterior row of eyes slightly procurved (as seen from in front), with medians slightly larger than laterals ; laterals elliptical in shape, and medians closer to adjacent laterals than to each other ; posterior row of eyes procurved ; medians silvery white, elliptical in shape, much larger than laterals and closer to adjacent laterals than to each other as in fig. 1 ; median ocular quadrangle slightly longer than wide and narrower in front than behind. Clypeal height as large as diameter of anterior median eye. Sternum oval, slightly narrowed behind, rebordered, clothed with fine hairs. Labium triangular, not contiguous with maxillae ; anterior margin of maxillae provided with scopulae as in fig. 2. Chelicerae vertical ; inner margin without tooth but outer margin provided with three small teeth. Legs relatively long ; and strong, clothed with hairs and some spines ; scopulae extending to base of metatarsi I and II ; leg formula 4123. Male unknown.

Abdomen : More or less elliptical in shape, narrowed behind, clothed with pubescence ; ventral side lighter than dorsal. Epigyne as in fig. 3. Spermathecae as in fig. 4. Spinnerets prominent as in fig. 5.

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

Type-locality : India, Madhya Pradesh, Amjhar Ghati on Jabalpur Dindori road, Jabalpur district, 27. XI. 1965. Coll. H. P. Agrawal.

This species resembles *Liodrassus mandae* Tikader & Gajbe but differs from it as follows : (i) Outer margin of chelicera provided with three teeth but in *L. mandae* outer margin with four teeth. (ii) Abdomen uniform but in *L. mandae* abdomen provided with muscular corrugations. (iii) Epigyne having intromittent orifice rounded and the spermathecae are triangular with spermathecal duct less coiled.

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