

A NEW *MIMETUS* SPIDER FROM INDIA
(ARANEAE : MIMETIDAE)

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MATERIAL

The description is based on one female specimen.

The spiders of the family Mimetidae are comparatively little known. This family was established by Simon (1890) with *Mimetus* as type genus and *interfactor* Hentz as type species. Simon (1893) described many species of the family Mimetidae from various parts of the world and in 1906 the first species, *Mimetus indicus* from India. Kaston (1978) gave illustrations of three known species of *Mimetus* out of 10 species known from North America. Brignoli (1974, 1980) described two species, *Mimetus ridens* and *M. vespillo* from the Philippines and Italy respectively.

While studying the collection of spiders from Madhya Pradesh, I have encountered a new species of *Mimetus* which is described here as a second species from India.

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

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

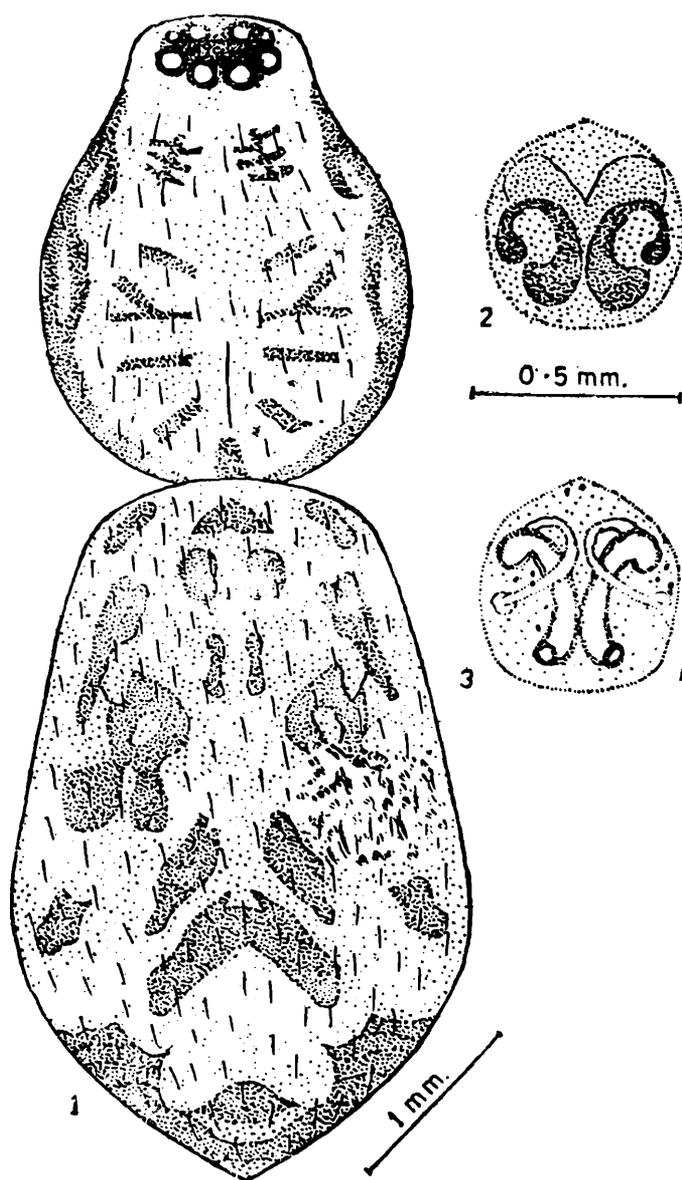
***Mimetus tikaderi* sp. nov.**

General : Cephalothorax and legs light yellowish green ; abdomen deep yellowish-green. Total length 6.20 mm. Carapace 2.50 mm. long, 2.00 mm. wide ; abdomen 3.80 mm. long, 2.40 mm. wide.

Cephalothorax : Longer than wide, narrow in front, convex, clothed with pubescence and some long hairs, with inconspicuous short fovea at posterior middle, laterally bordered by black patch and middorsally provided with five pairs of black irregular patches. Ocular region dark ; eyes compact on ocular region, posterior row of eyes slightly longer than anterior row ; anterior row slightly recurved (as seen from in front), with medians black, rounded larger than laterals, closer to laterals than to each other, and with laterals light in colour and oval in shape ; posterior row of eyes slightly procurved (as seen from in front) ; with medians dark, larger than laterals and equidistant to laterals and with laterals light, oval in shape ; median ocular quadrangle longer than wide and wider behind than in front. Clypeus clearly shorter than length

of the eye region. Labium triangular, as long as wide, provided with scopulae ; maxillae vertical, yellowish, with anterior portion provided with black scopulae. Chelicerae vertical provided with conspicuous heavy bristles on inner margin about two-thirds the distance from base to fang groove. Sternum light yellow, heart-shaped, smooth, ending with an obtuse point and with small hairs. Legs moderately long, with black patches on patella and tibia, provided with long spines and hairy ; tibia and metatarsus I and II with a prolateral row of long spines, in the intervals between which is a row of much shorter spines.

Abdomen : Longer than wide, nearly pentagonal, widest behind middle, clothed with hairs and provided with some black patches as in fig. 1. Ventral side slightly



Figs. 1-3. *Mimetus tikaderi*. sp. nov.

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

lighter than dorsal provided with orange coloured patches. Epigyne as in fig. 2. Spermathecae as in fig. 3.

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

Type-locality : India, Madhya Pradesh, Bargaon village, Narayanpur Taluka, Bastar district, 24. XII 1983. Coll. U. A. Gajbe.

Discussion : This species resembles *Mimetus ridens* Drignoli from Philippines but can be separated by the structure of epigyne and spermathecae, it can be distinguished from other already known species by colour, general morphology, epigyne and spermathecae.

SUMMARY

Mimetus tikaderi sp. nov. (Family-Mimetidae) from Bastar district, Madhya Pradesh, is described.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I am grateful to Dr. B. K. Tikader, Former Director, Zoological Survey of India for assigning the project, help with literature and constant encouragement in my research work. I am also thankful to Dr. P. D. Gupta, Officer-in-Charge, Central Regional Station, Zoological Survey of India, Jabalpur for providing necessary facilities, going through the manuscript and making valuable suggestions and to Miss Pratiksha Tiwari for typing the manuscript. I am also thankful to Prof. Dr. P. M. Brignoli from Italy for help with literature.

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