

Two new species of spiders of the family Lyssomanidae from India

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Abstract. Two new species *Lyssomanes karnatakaensis* sp. nov. and *L. bengalensis* sp. nov. belonging to the family Lyssomanidae are described from India.

Keywords. Lyssomanidae; *Lyssomanes karnatakaensis* sp. nov.; *L. bengalensis* sp. nov.

1. Introduction

The spiders of the family Lyssomanidae are not well known from India. Only two species of the genus *Lyssomanes* were known described by Tikader (1967, 1977). The spiders of this family previously included in the family Salticidae. But due to their peculiar eye position, Bank (1892) separated them from the family Salticidae and created a family on the basis of their genus *Lyssomanes* Hentz.

While examining the spider collection of Karnataka and West Bengal, we came across several new species of spiders, some of which are described elsewhere. The present paper contains descriptions of two new species of lyssomanid spider. The type specimens will be deposited in due course in the National Collections of Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

Lyssomanes karnatakaensis sp. nov.

General: Cephalothorax and legs light brown. Abdomen pale yellow. Total length 5.90 mm. Carapace 2.20 mm long, 1.90 mm wide; abdomen 3.70 mm long, 1.30 mm wide.

Cephalothorax: Longer than wide, cephalic region high, thoracic region sloping behind. Carapace provided with brown patches as in figure 1. Middle of thoracic region provided with a sharp fovea. Eyes four rows. Eyes of anterior row (anterior medians) largest and white. Bases of rest of the eyes provided with conspicuous black patches as in figure 1. Anterior lateral eyes (second row) with prominent stalk. Posterior median eyes (third row) smaller than the others and situated at the bases of anterior lateral eyes. Posterior lateral eyes (fourth row) of medium sized. Ocular quad slightly longer than wide and wider in front. Sternum almost round, pale. Labium slightly longer than wide. Maxillae broader in front and

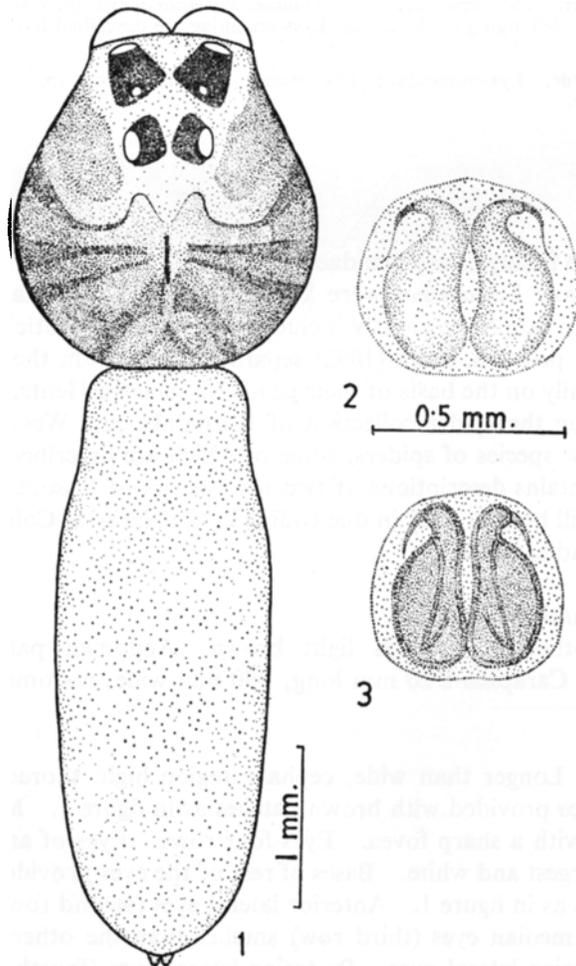
provided with inconspicuous scopulae. Chelicerae moderately strong and retro-margin of fang furrow provided with six small equal teeth. Legs long and slender, clothed with hairs and spines. Tibiae and femora of I leg provided with four pairs of long ventral spines. Tarsi provided with well developed claw tufts.

Abdomen: Long, slender, clothed with pubescence. A 'U' shaped mark present at the anterior dorsal side as in figure 1. Ventral side pale. Epigyne as in figure 2. Internal genitalia as in figure 3.

Holotype female, *paratype* one female in spirit.

Type locality: Kotigehar, Dist. Chikmagalur, Karnataka, India. *Coll. B. K. Tikader, 27-12-1960.*

This species resembles with *L. andamanensis* Tikader but can be separated as fol-



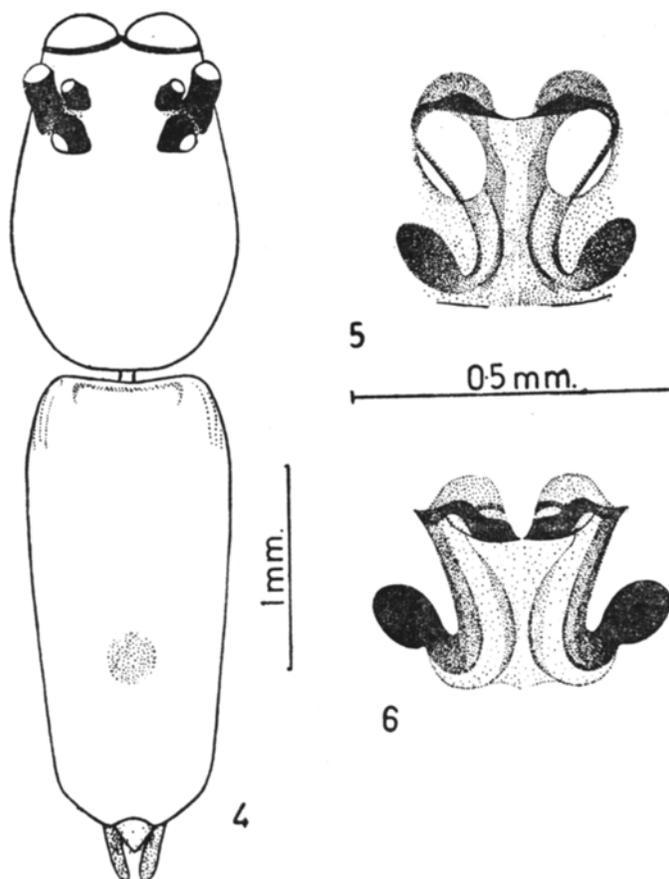
Figures 1-3. *Lyssomanes karnatakaensis* sp. nov. 1. Dorsal view of female, legs omitted. 2. Epigyne. 3. Internal genitalia.

lows: (i) Cephalothorax without the white longitudinal marking but in *L. andamanensis* cephalothorax provided with conspicuous longitudinal white marking. (ii) Abdomen uniformly pale and without tufts of hairs but in *L. andamanensis* abdomen brown and posteriorly provided with white patches and on the sides with tufts of hairs. (iii) Spinnerets not long but in *L. andamanensis* one pair is conspicuously long. (iv) Epigyne and internal genitalia also structurally different.

Lyssomanes bengalensis sp. nov.

General: Cephalothorax, abdomen and legs pale yellow in colour. Total length 4.20 mm. Carapace 1.80 mm long, 1.10 mm wide; abdomen 2.20 mm long, 1.00 mm wide.

Cephalothorax: Longer than wide slightly narrowing in front, cephalic region high, thoracic region sloping behind. Middle of thoracic region provided with a fine fovea. Eyes four rows and anterior medians largest and white. Bases of rest of the eyes provided with conspicuous black patches as in figure 4. Anterior



Figures 4-6. *Lyssomanes bengalensis* sp. nov. 4. Dorsal view of female, legs omitted. 5. Epigyne. 6. Internal genitalia.

lateral eyes (second row) with prominent stalk. Posterior median eyes (third row) smaller eyes (fourth row) of medium size and situated with a wide tubercle. Ocular quad slightly longer than wide. Sternum almost round, pale. Labium slightly longer than wide. Maxillae broader in front and provided with inconspicuous scopulae. Chelicerae moderately strong and retromargin of fang furrow provided with three small equal teeth. Legs long and slender, clothed with hair and spines. Tibiae and femora of I leg provided with four pairs of long ventral spines. Tarsi provided with well developed black claw tufts.

Abdomen: Long, slender, clothed with pubescence. A light brown patch present Ventral side pale. Epigyne as in figure 5. Internal genitalia as in figure 6.

Holotype female, *paratype* two females in spirit.

Type locality: Baikunthapur village, Baraipur, Dist. 24, Parganas, West Bengal, India. Coll. *Bijan Biswas*, 30-10-1977.

This species resembles with *Lyssomanes karnatakaensis* sp. nov. but can be separated as follows: (i) Posterior median eyes (third row) situated on a stalk but in *L. karnatakaensis* posterior median eyes (third row) situated on the base of anterior lateral eyes without stalk. (ii) Retromargin of fang furrow provided with three small teeth but in *L. karnatakaensis* retromargin of fang furrow provided with six small teeth. (iii) Epigyne and internal genitalia also structurally different.

Acknowledgement

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