

TWO NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *OEDIGNATHA* THORELL (ARANEAE : CLUBIONIDAE) FROM COASTAL ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA

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Two new species of spider genus *Oedignatha* Thorell (Clubionidae) viz., *Oedignatha binoyii* sp. nov. and *O. indica* sp. nov. are described and illustrated from Visakhapatnam District of Coastal Andhra Pradesh, India.

(Key words: new spiders, *Oedignatha binoyii* sp. nov., *O. indica* sp. nov.)

The first record of Indian *Oedignatha* Thorell (Clubionidae) spiders was made from India by Thorell in 1881 and thereafter, Simon (1897), Strand (1907), Reimoser (1934) and Majumder (1985) have described as many as 11 species from India.

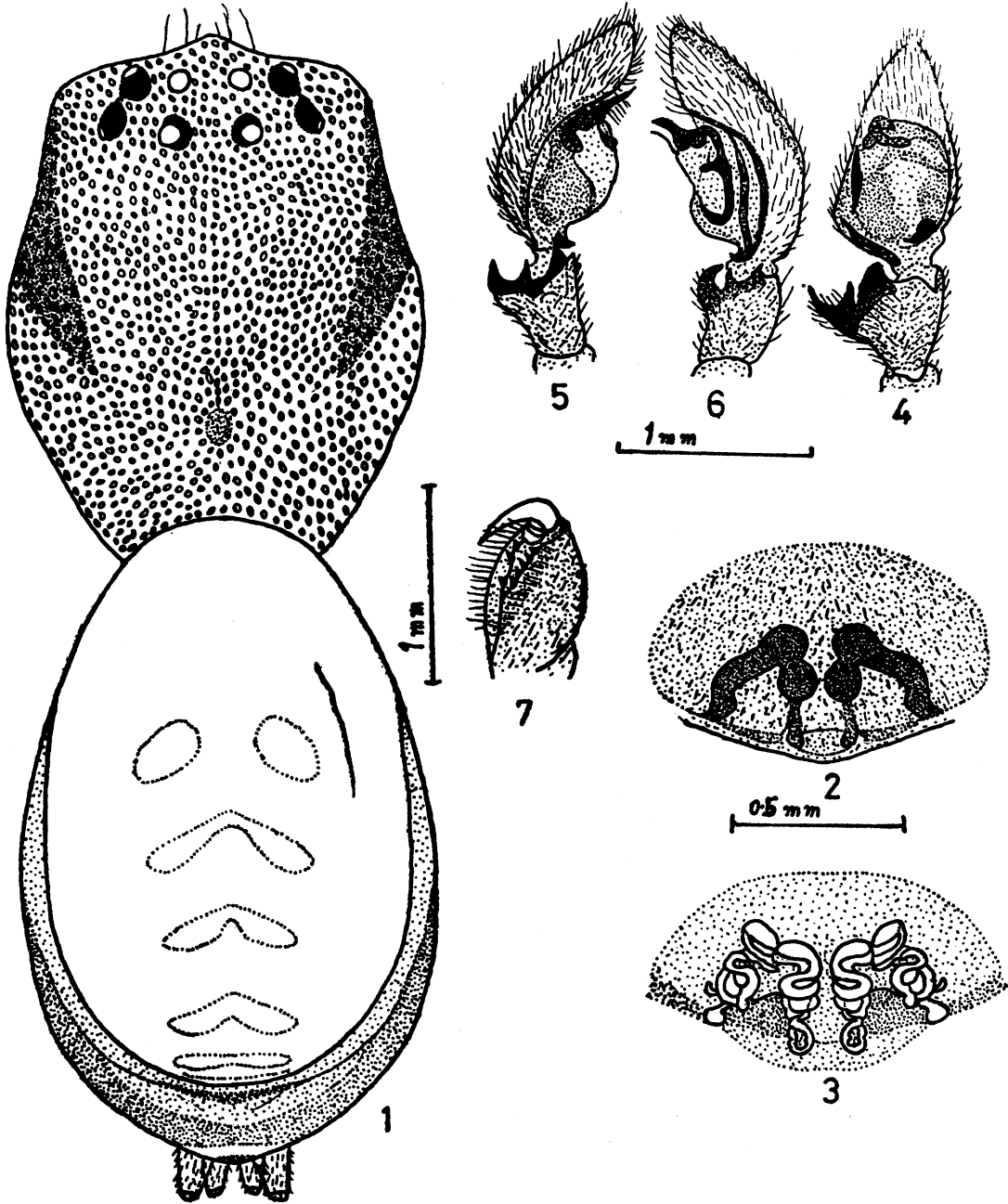
While examining the spider collections made by one of us (TSR) from Coastal Andhra Pradesh, we came across two new species of the genus *Oedignatha*, which are described and illustrated here, making the total number of species to 13 from India.

The type specimens will in due course be deposited in the National collections, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta.

1. *Oedignatha binoyii* sp. nov. (Fig. 1-7).

General: Cephalothorax and legs reddish brown, abdomen reddish black and decorated with two longitudinal rows of four pairs of pale patches with white hairs. Total length 5.92 mm. Carapace 3.01 mm long, 2.11 mm wide; abdomen 3.27 mm long, 2.06 mm wide.

Cephalothorax: Oblong, longer than wide, reddish brown, with irregularly arranged small pits. The cephalic shield extending upto the frontal median eyes and a prominent median tubercle situated just below the median frontal eyes in front of the cephalothorax. Thorax provided with central fovea. Eyes in two rows, anterior and posterior. Anterior row of eyes slightly procurved and equal in size; anterior and posterior medians are equal in size. Posterior row procurved, slightly longer than the anterior row; posterior medians slightly smaller than the posterior laterals and placed equidistant from each other. Laterals close to each other. Ocular quad almost square, slightly narrow anteriorly as in Fig. 1. Sternum, oval, reddish brown, clothed with hairs and decorated with irregularly arranged small black pits. Labium reddish brown, longer than wide, slightly depressed at the middle and extends beyond the middle of maxillary lobes. Maxillae reddish in colour, longer than wide, very slightly depressed at the middle, distal end pale, broad and rounded provided with scopulae. Chelicerae large, reddish brown, scopulated distally with chocolate brown hairs; inner and outer



Figs. 1–7, *Oedignatha binoyii* sp. nov. 1. Dorsal view of female (legs omitted); 2. Epigyne; 3. Internal genitalia; 4. Right male palp – ventral view; 5. Right male palp – inner view; 6. Right male palp – outer view; 7. Right chelicera – ventral view.

margins of fang furrow provided with five and three big teeth resp. as in Fig. 7. Legs long, slender, strong and stout. Femora I and II slightly curved and III and IV very little curved. Tibiae and metatarsi I and II provided with eight and six pairs of thin ventral spines respectively. Tarsi relatively long provided with two claws and tenent hairs. Leg formula 1 4 2 3.

Male: Similar to the female and nearly equal in size. Total length 6.00 mm. Male palp as in Figs. 4, 5 and 6.

Abdomen : Oblong, longer than wide, reddish black in colour. Dorsum provided with hard sclerotized shield, decorated with four pairs of pale patches with white hairs arranged mid-logitudinally in two rows as in Fig. 1. Ventral side lighter than the dorsal and not uniformly coloured. Epigyne and internal genitalia as in Figs. 2 and 3.

Holotype One ♀, **paratype** 1♀, **allotype** 1♂ in spirit.

Type-locality: Araku, Dist Visakhapatnam, 18.x.1986. Coll. T. S. Reddy.

Diagnosis: This species resembles *Oedignatha procerula* Simon but it is separated as follows : (i) Anterior row of eyes slightly procurved and anterior and posterior medians are equal in size but in *O. procerula* anterior row of eyes slightly recurved and anterior medians larger than the posterior medians. (ii) Tibiae and metatarsi I and II provided with eight and six pairs of thin ventral spines resp. but in *O. Procerula* tibiae and metatarsi I and II provided with seven and five pairs of ventral spines respectively. (iii) Male palp is also structurally different.

2. *Oedignatha indica* sp. nov. (Figs. 8-15)

General: Cephalothorax black, legs reddish brown, abdomen blackish but decorated

with four pairs of pale patches with white hairs arranged in two longitudinal rows. Total length 5.16 mm. Carapace 2.50 mm long, 1.50 mm wide; abdomen 2.88 mm long, 1.45 mm wide.

Cephalothorax: Oblong, longer than broad, black, decorated with irregularly arranged small pits. The cephalic shield extended upto the frontal median eyes and a prominent median tubercle situated just below the median frontal eyes in front of the cephalothorax. Thorax provided with central fovea. Eyes in two rows, anterior and posterior. Anterior row slightly procurved; anterior medians are slightly smaller than the anterior laterals and placed equidistant in a row, anterior and posterior laterals are equal in size. Posterior row procurved, slightly longer than the anterior row; posterior medians slightly smaller than the posterior laterals and placed equidistant from each other in a row. Laterals close to each other. Ocular quad almost square, as in Fig. 8. Sternum, oval, reddish black, clothed with hairs and decorated with irregularly arranged small black pits. Labium reddish brown longer than wide and slightly depressed at the middle and extends beyond the middle of maxillary lobes. Maxillae reddish, longer than wide, very slightly depressed at the middle, distal ends pale broad and rounded, provided with scopulae. Sternum, labium and maxillae as in Fig. 9. Chelicerae large, reddish brown in colour, scopulated distally with chocolate brown hairs; inner margin of fang furrow provided with five small teeth and outer margin with three big teeth as in Fig. 15. Legs long and slender, strong and stout. Femora I and II slightly curved and III and IV very little curved. Tibiae and metatarsi I and II provided with seven pairs of thin ventral spines. Tarsi relatively long, provided with two claws and tenent hairs. Leg formula 1 4 2 3.

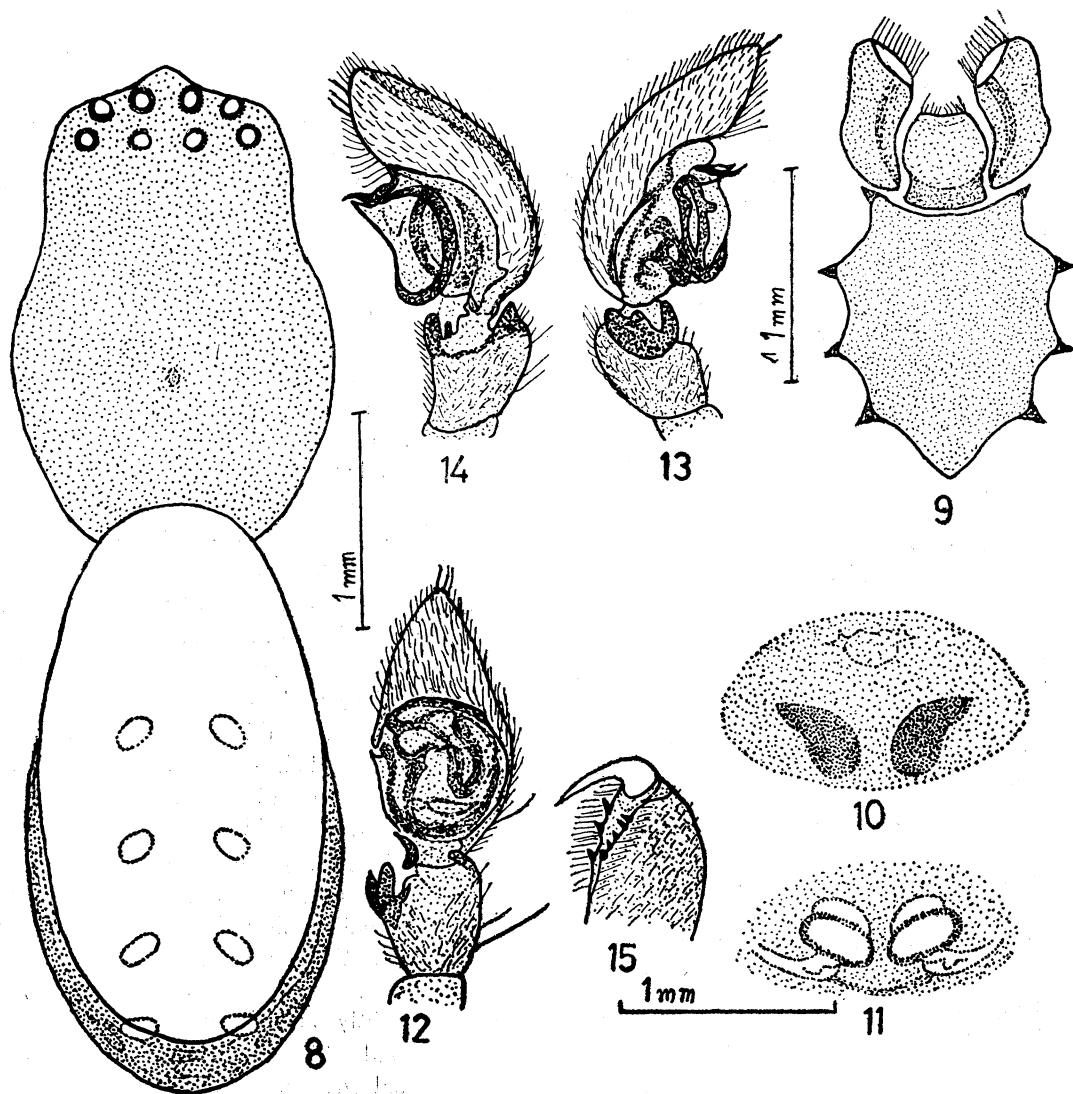
Male: Similar to the female and practically equal in size. Total length 4.25 mm. Male palp as in Figs. 12, 13, and 14.

Abdomen: Oblong, longer than wide, blackish in colour. Dorsum provided with hard sclerotized shield, decorated with four pairs of pale patches with white hairs,

arranged mid-longitudinally in two rows as in Fig. 8. Ventral side lighter than the dorsal and not uniformly coloured. Epigyne and internal genitalia as in Figs. 10 and 11.

Holotype: One ♀ allotype 1 ♂ in spirit.

Type-locality: Anakapalli, Dist Visakhapatnam.



Figs. 8-15, *Oedignatha indica* sp. nov. 8. Dorsal view of female (legs omitted); 9. Sternum, labium and maxillae; 10. Epigyne; 11. Internal genitalia; 12. Right male palp - ventral view; 13. Right male palp - inner view; 14. Right male palp - outer view; 15. Right chelicera - ventral view.

13.x.1985. Coll. T. S. Reddy.

Diagnosis: This species resembles *Oedignatha scrobiculata* Thorell but it is separated as follows: (i) Tibiae and metatarsi I and II provided with seven pairs of thin ventral spines but in *O. scrobiculata* tibiae and metatarsi I and II provided with five and seven pairs of ventral spines respectively. (ii) Dorsum of abdomen provided with hard sclerotized shield, decorated with four pairs of patches with white hairs but in *O. scrobiculata* dorsum of abdomen provided with hard sclerotized shield, decorated with six pairs of white patches extending longitudinally on either side of the mid-dorsal line. (iii) Epigyne and internal genitalia are also structurally different. (iv) Male palp is also structurally different.

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