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Short Communication

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF SPIDER GENUS CAMARICUS (THOMISIDAE : ARANEAE) FROM INDIA

INTRODUCTION

Spiders of the family Thomisidae in India have received attention by Tikader (1960–1980). The Fauna of India (Thomisidae) has been published by Tikader (1980) after the Fauna of British India, Arachnida by Pocock (1900) where the family Thomisidae was not included, though the Thomisid spiders are abundant in our country. While examining the spider collections from Silent Valley Expedition, we came across a new species of *Camaricus* Thorell which is described in this paper. This, in fact, is the third species of this genus known from the Indian Sub-continent.

The type is deposited in the National Collection of the Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata-53.

***Camaricus rinkae* sp. nov.**

(Figs. 1-3)

General : Cephalothorax brown, first and second pair of legs blackish brown; third and fourth pair of legs and pedipalp pale yellow in colour. Abdomen black with yellowish ornamentation. Total length 7.00 mm. Carapace 2.50 mm long, 2.50 mm wide; abdomen 4.50 mm long, 3.00 mm wide.

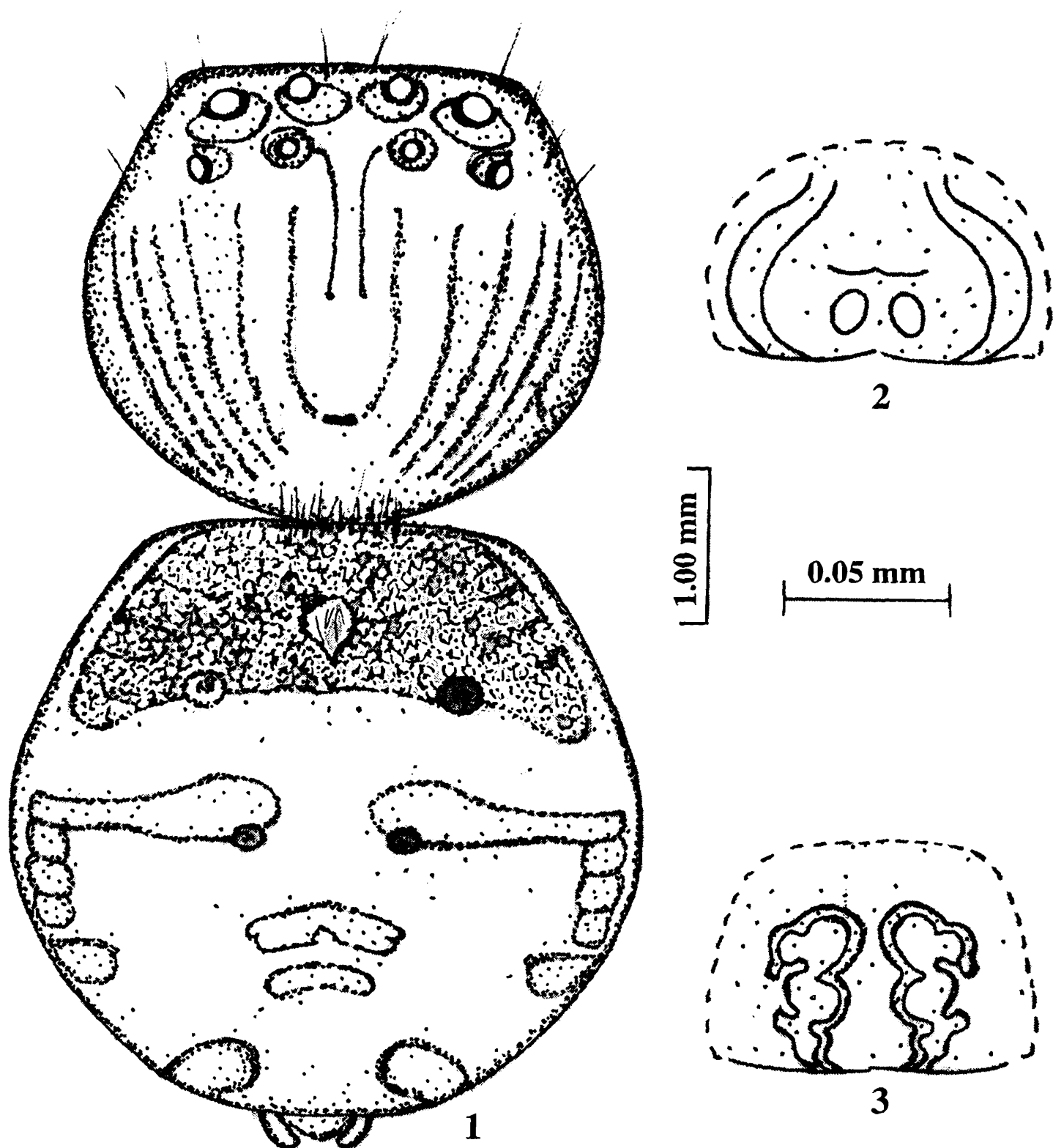
Cephalothorax : High at the middle and sloping posteriorly, few spine like, hair projected anteriorly. Two rows of eyes, both rows slightly procurved and heterogenous. Bases of the antero lateral eyes with prominent white tubercles (Fig. 1). Ocular quad wider than long. Sternum heart shaped, pointed behind, deep brown in colour. Labium is brown. Maxillae is brown. Chelicerae are strong. First and second pair of legs are robust with spine like hair. Tibiae and metatarsi of first and second pair of legs provided with four pairs of spines ventrally. Leg formulae are $\frac{1}{2} / \frac{3}{4}$.

Abdomen : Longer than wide, broadest at the middle, clothed with hair, decorated anteriorly and laterally also. Dorsum of the abdomen with chalk white ornamentation and middle onwards upto posterior with scattered chalk white patches. Ventral side with two lateral white bands extended from epigastric furrow to the base of spinnerets. Lateral and median are dark black in colour.

Male : Unknown.

Type specimen : Holotype female preserved in rectified spirit (70%). Registration number is 5570/18.

Type-locality : Road to Valliapara Thodar, Silent Valley, Kerala, India, 05.xii.1980, coll. R.S. Pillai.



Figs. 1-3. : *Camaricus rinkae*; 1. Dorsal view of female, Holotype (legs are omitted); 2. Epigyne; 3. Internal genitalia.

Remarks : *Camaricus rinkae* sp. nov. is similar to the *Camaricus formosus* but differs in the following characters. (1) Colour, ornamentation of *C. rinkae* is different from the *C. formosus*. (2) First and second pair of legs provided with four pair of spines ventrally on tarsus and metatarsus respectively but three pairs in *C. formosus*. (3) One single and two pairs (i.e. five in number) of sigilla present in *Camaricus rinkae* but in *Camaricus formosus* no such sigilla. (4) Epigyne and internal genitalia are also structurally different.

Distribution : INDIA : Kerala (new record).

SUMMARY

A new species under the genus *Camaricus* Thorell (Family : Thomisidae) described and illustrated. This, in fact, the third species described from the Indian Sub-continent.

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