

**A NEW SPECIES OF SPIDER OF THE GENUS *PHILODROMUS* WALCKENAER  
(ARANEAE : PHILODROMIDAE) FROM MADHYA PRADESH, INDIA.**

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The spiders of the family Philodromidae are little known in Indian Fauna. The genus was established by Walckenaer in 1825 with the Type-species *Philodromus aureolus* (Clerck). Tikader (1980) reillustrated and redescribed twelve species and three new species from different parts of India in *Fauna of India* series.

While studying the spider collection collected by the second author from different areas of Jabalpur city, we came across a new species of the genus *Philodromus* which is described here.

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

***Philodromus ashae* sp. nov.**

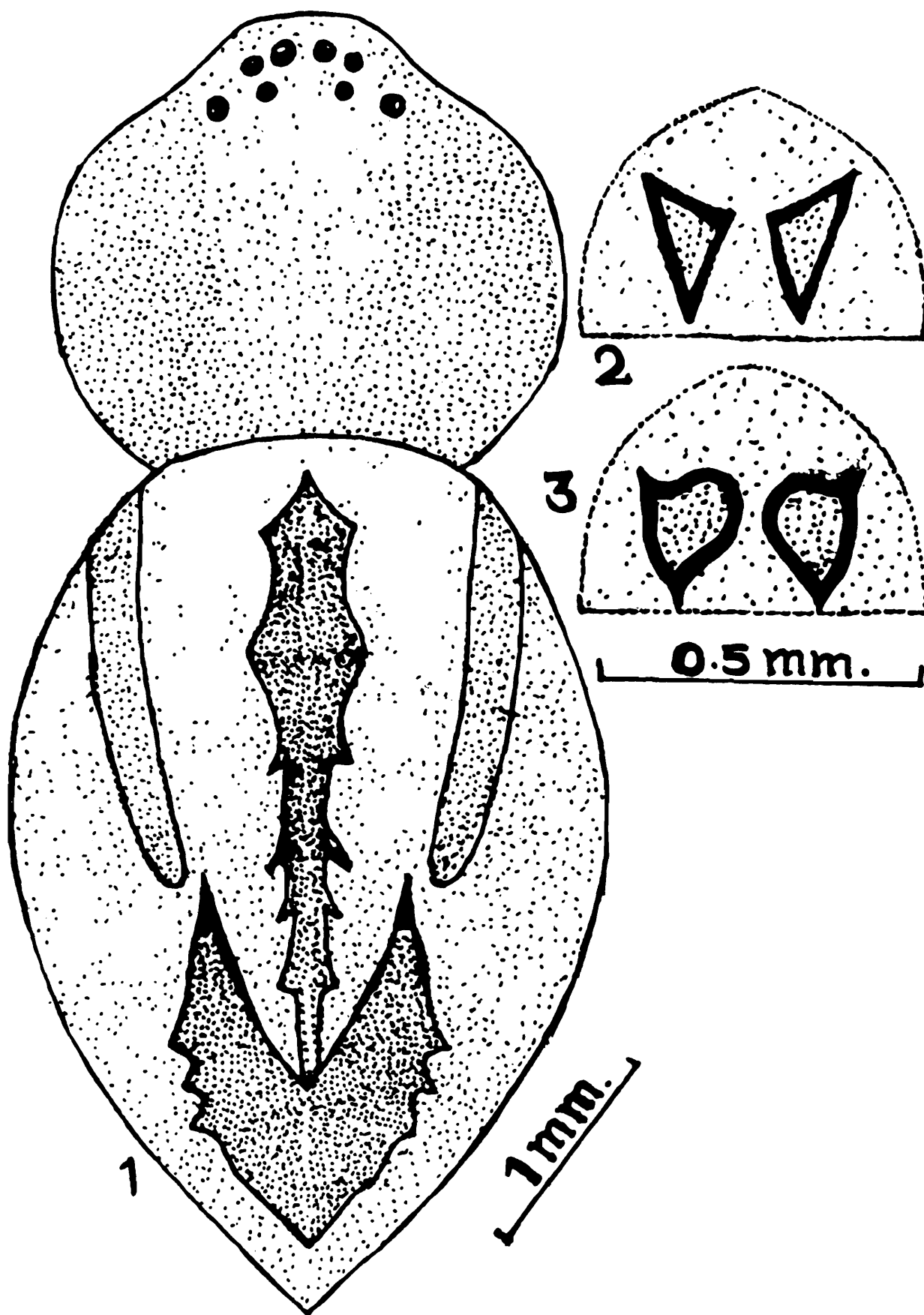
**General :** Cephalothorax and legs light yellowish green, abdomen light brownish green. Total length 5.80 mm. Cephalothorax 2.00 mm. long, 2.40 wide; abdomen 3.80 mm. long, 2.70 mm. wide.

**Cephalothorax :** Wider than long, depressed, uniform in colour, posterior region slightly overlapped by the abdomen. Clypeus narrow; margin provided with small hairs directed forward. Eyes round and black, ringed with white tubercles, anterior row slightly recurved, almost equal in size and equally spaced, posterior row longer and some-what more recurved than the anterior row, posterior laterals larger than others. ocular quad longer than wide, space between the anterior medians less than that of posterior medians. Posterior medians further from each other than from the adjacent laterals. Legs relatively long, II leg slightly longer than I, clothed with fine pubescence, dorsal side of I femur with three pairs of spines directed forward; tibiae of I and II with one and two pairs of ventral spines respectively, metatarsi provided with two pairs of ventral spines, tarsal scopulae well developed and claw tuft prominent.

**Abdomen :** Longer than wide, depressed, clothed with very fine pubescence, posterior part narrower than the anterior part, dorsum antero-medially with a spear shaped light brown patch as in fig.1. Postero-medially with a V-shaped light brown patch. Ventral side lighter than the dorsal with a broad, longitudinal light brown band starting from the base of epigastric furrow to the spinnerets. Epigyne as in fig. 2. Internal genitalia as in fig. 3.

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Figs. 1-3. *Philodromus ashae* sp. nov.  
1. Dorsal view of female, legs omitted; 2. Epigyne; 3. Internal genitalia.

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

*Type-locality* : Adhartal near Jawaharlal Nehru University, Jabalpur, Coll. Pawan Gajbe, 30.12.1997

This species closely resembles *Philodromus shillongensis* Tikader but differs from it as follows : (i) Cephalothorax uniform but in *P. shillongensis* cephalothorax provided laterally with pigmented patches. (ii) Abdomen provided with antero-median spear shaped patch, postero-medially with V-shaped light brown patch but in *P. shillongensis* abdomen without V-shaped patch. (iii) Epigyne also structurally different.

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