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continued on the back inside cover

Cover: Golden-headed Lion Tamarin *Leontopithecus chrysomelas*. Watercolor and acrylics by P. Kritika.

under a Zeiss SteREO Discovery.V20 stereomicroscope and microphotographic images were taken by a Axiocam 208 color digital camera attached to the stereomicroscope, enabled with the software Zeiss ZEN 3.3. The left palp was removed, studied and photographed by placing it in a cavity block filled with 70% ethanol, following Parmar & Prajapati (2023). The species was identified based on illustrations in Caleb et al. (2025) and Wesołowska & Tomasiewicz (2008). All measurements are in millimeters (mm). Leg measurements are given in the following order: total (femur, patella, tibia, metatarsus, tarsus). The examined specimen has been deposited in the reference collection of Zoology Laboratory at Department of Zoology, R.R. Lalan College, Bhuj-Kachchh, Gujarat, India.

Family Salticidae Blackwall, 1841

Genus *Sonoita* G.W. Peckham & E.G. Peckham, 1903

Type species: *Sonoita lightfooti* G.W. Peckham & E.G. Peckham, 1903

***Sonoita lightfooti* G.W. Peckham & E.G. Peckham, 1903**
(Image 1–6)

Sonoita lightfooti Peckham & Peckham, 1903: 184, pl. 19, fig. 4

Sonoita lightfooti Wesołowska & Tomasiewicz, 2008: 48, figs 189–194, 213–214

Sonoita cf. *lightfooti* Caleb et al., 2025: 79, figs 1A–C, 2A–H, 3A–B

For a complete list of taxonomic references refer WSC (2025).

Materials examined: RRLC-ZC/SP-09, 28.v.2025, 1 male, India, Gujarat, Kachchh, Sanosara (23.113° N, 69.699° E), 212 m, from leaf litter in arid habitat, leg. S. Parmar.



Images 1–6. *Sonoita lightfooti* G.W. Peckham & E.G. Peckham, 1903: 1—male habitus, dorsal view | 2—male habitus, ventral view | 3—male habitus, frontal view | 4—left pedipalp, ventral view | 5—left pedipalp, retrolateral view | 6—left pedipalp, dorsal view. © Subhash Parmar.



Image 7. Distribution of *Sonoita lightfooti* G.W. Peckham & E.G. Peckham, 1903 in India. Red star indicates previous record & yellow star indicates new record.

Diagnosis: The species is easily distinguished by following characters: male pedipalp with long, slender embolus, arising at 6 O'clock position, running prolaterally with tip concealed behind the conductor (Image 4); bulb with a retrolateral median apophysis; retrolateral tibial apophysis (RTA) broad, flattened and spatula-shaped (Images 5 & 6) (Caleb et al. 2025).

For the detailed diagnosis of female see, Wanless (1985).

Description: Male (Images 1–6), total length 3.13; carapace length 1.47, width 1.26; abdomen length 1.67, width 1.05. Eye measurements: anterior median eye (AME) 0.29, anterior lateral eye (ALE) 0.16, posterior median eye (PME) 0.12, posterior lateral eye (PLE) 0.16. Leg measurements: I 3.11 (0.96, 0.53, 0.73, 0.53, 0.36); II 2.75 (0.86, 0.45, 0.58, 0.50, 0.37); III 2.78 (0.94, 0.38, 0.58, 0.53, 0.35); IV 3.64 (1.07, 0.54, 0.76, 0.86, 0.41). Leg formula: 4132. Carapace pale brown, clothed with pale hairs. Eyes surrounded with dark patches; all eyes surrounded by white orbital setae. Sternum yellowish-brown and oval; labium brownish. Chelicerae light brown. Abdomen pale brown, oval-shaped, with pairs of lateral white setae on posterior half, chevron-shaped brown markings on posterior part; ventrally brownish with pale brown spots arranged longitudinally. Spinnerets yellowish brown in color. Leg I bearing leaf like setae on

ventral part of femora, patellae and tibiae; tibial setae dense and longer than femoral setae; metatarsi and tarsi of leg I clothed with white setae (Image 3); legs II–IV pale yellowish with annulations and covered with white hairs. Pedipalp yellowish-brown; cymbium and tibia covered with white hairs; cymbium apically covered with black hairs; bulb with a retrolateral median apophysis (Image 4); long and slender embolus arising at 6 O'clock position, running prolaterally with tip concealed behind conductor (Image 4); tibia with broad, flattened and spatula-shaped RTA (Images 5 & 6).

Natural history: The present collection of *S. lightfooti* was made in arid thorn-forest habitats, where the species was observed occupying leaf litter during daylight hours, indicating diurnal activity and a preference for ground-associated microhabitats.

Distribution: Parts of Africa (Cape Colony, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast) and India (WSC 2025).

Distribution in India: Karnataka (Caleb et al. 2025) and Gujarat (new record) (Image 7).

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