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NOTE

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION RECORDS OF *ZIMIRIS DORIAE* SIMON, 1882 (ARANEAE: GNAPHOSIDAE) FROM INDIA

Dhruv A. Prajapati

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Additional distribution records of *Zimiris doriae* Simon, 1882 (Araneae: Gnaphosidae) from India

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The gnaphosid spider genus *Zimiris* Simon, 1882 has only two representatives in the world: *Zimiris doriae* Simon, 1882 and *Zimiris diffusa* Platnick & Penney, 2004, and both these species are distributed in southern India (Simon 1884; Platnick & Penney 2004). The type species *Z. doriae* Simon, 1882 is widespread and known from Ivory Coast, Sudan, Eritrea, Yemen, and Iran. It was, moreover, introduced into other places such as Mexico, Caribbean, French Guiana, Brazil, Germany, Indonesia (Java) and Malaysia (World Spider Catalog 2021). The species was recorded in India by Simon (1884) and Sherriffs (1919). The specimens collected by Sherriffs were later studied by Cooke (1964) and Platnick & Penny (2004). The aim of this paper is to record this species 102 years since its last record from India and update its distribution records.

Materials and Methods

Specimens were hand collected and studied under a LEICA S8AP0 stereozoom microscope. All measurements are in millimetres (mm). Drawings were made with the aid of a drawing tube attached to the microscope. Microphotographs of the specimens were captured with a Leica DFC2900 digital camera attached to a Leica M205A stereozoom microscope enabled with Leica

Application Suite (LAS) version 4.5.0. All the examined specimens are deposited in a reference collection of the Gujarat Ecological and Educational Research (GEER) Foundation, Gandhinagar, India.

Taxonomy

Gnaphosidae Pocock, 1898

Zimiris Simon, 1882

Type species: *Zimiris doriae* Simon, 1882, by original designation.

Zimiris doriae Simon, 1882

Images 1–14: Figures 1–4

Zimiris doriae Simon, 1882: 240, pl. 8, f. 12–15.

Zimiris indica Simon, 1884: 141.

Zimiris doriai? Sherriffs, 1919: 226.

Zimiris doriai Platnick & Penney, 2004: 8, f. 1–8, 12–19.

For a complete list of taxonomic references, refer the World Spider Catalog (2021)

Material examined: GEER421612A, 16.v.2014, two males and one female, Vastrapur (23.037°N & 23.037°E, 4.49m), Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India, coll. D.A. Prajapati & A.V. Prajapati; GEER421612B, 21.ix.2015, one male, Ghatlodia (23.064°N & 72.544°E, 4.69m), Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India, coll. K.D. Prajapati; GEER421612C,

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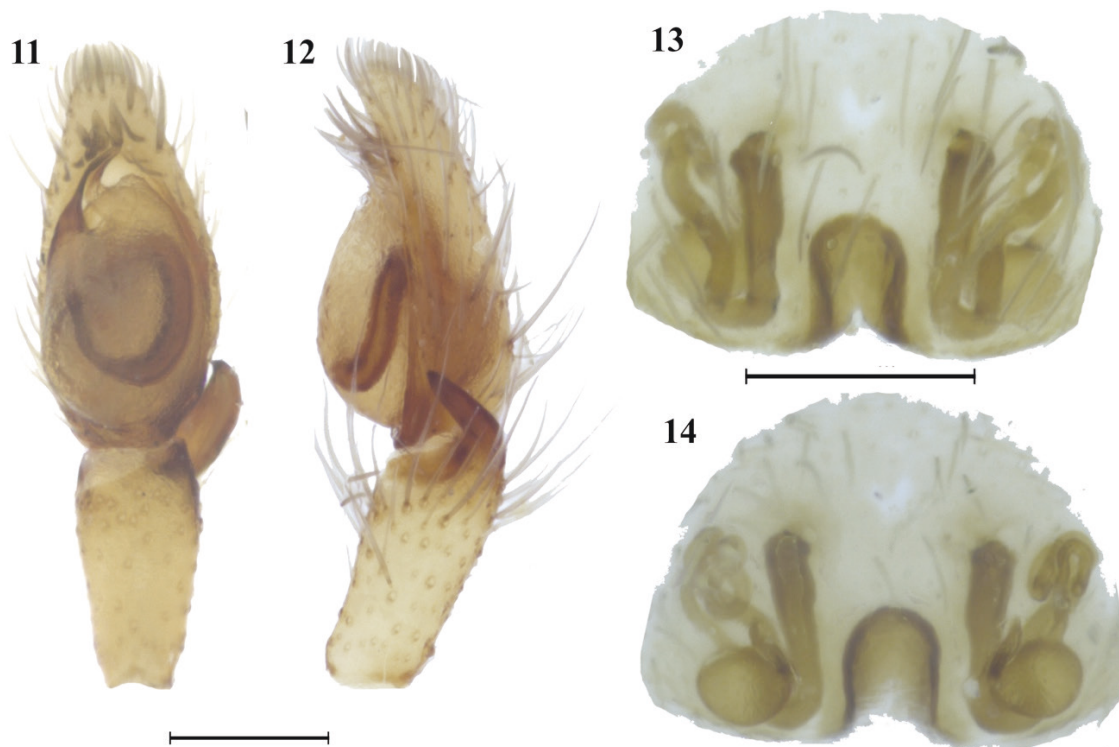
Funding: None.

Competing interests: The author declares no competing interests.

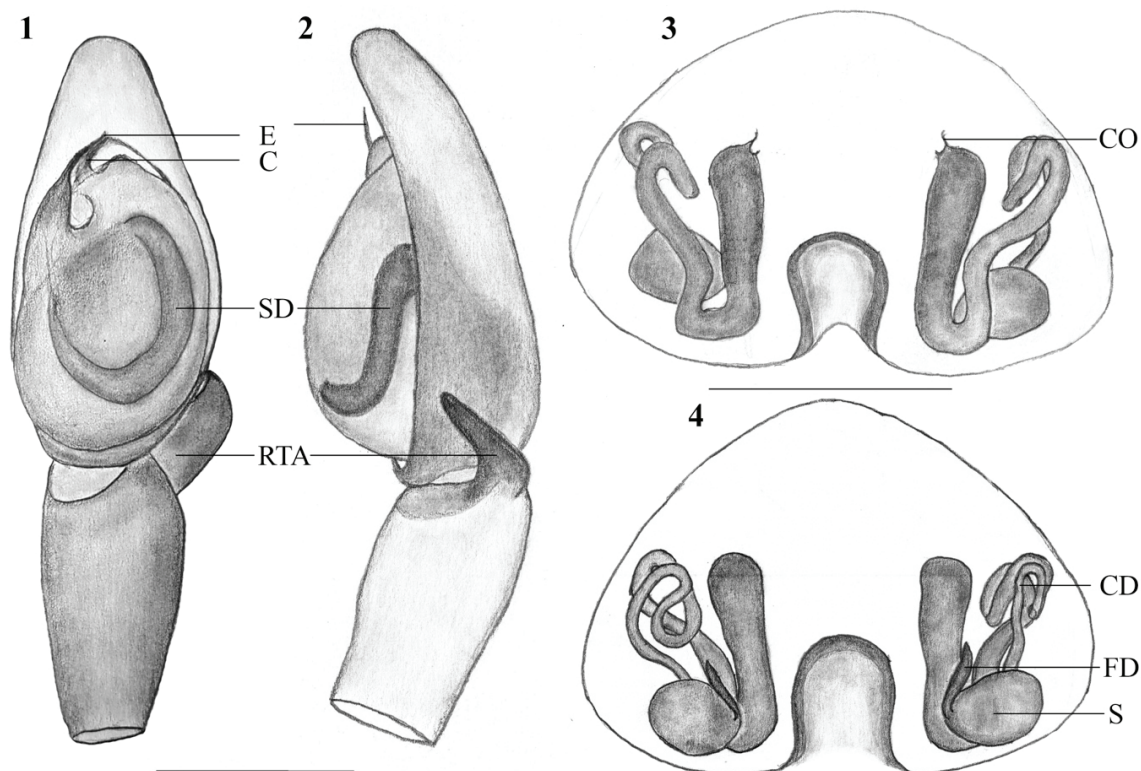
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Images 1–10 . *Zimiris doriae* Simon, 1882. 1—Female habitus in life | 2—Egg sac | 3—Male habitus, dorsal view | 4—Same, lateral view | 5—Same, ventral view | 6—Male spinnerets, ventral view | 7—Female habitus, dorsal view | 8—Same, lateral view | 9—Same, ventral view | 10—Female spinnerets, ventral view. Scale bars: 1mm (3–5); 0.2mm (6); 2mm (7–9); 0.5mm (10). © Dhruv A. Prajapati.



Images 11–14. *Zimiris doriae* Simon, 1882. 11—Left male pedipalp, ventral view | 12—Same, retrolateral view | 13—Epigyne, ventral view | 14—Vulva, dorsal view. Scale bars: 0.2mm (11–14). © Dhruv A. Prajapati.



Figures 1–4. *Zimiris doriae* Simon, 1882: 1—Left male pedipalp, ventral view | 2—Same, retrolateral view | 3—Epigyne, ventral view | 4—Vulva, dorsal view. Scale bars: 0.2mm (1–4). Abbreviations: C—conductor | CD—copulatory duct | CO—copulatory opening | E—embolus | FD—fertilization duct | RTA—retrolateral tibial apophysis | S—spermatheca | SD—sperm duct. © Dhruv A. Prajapati.

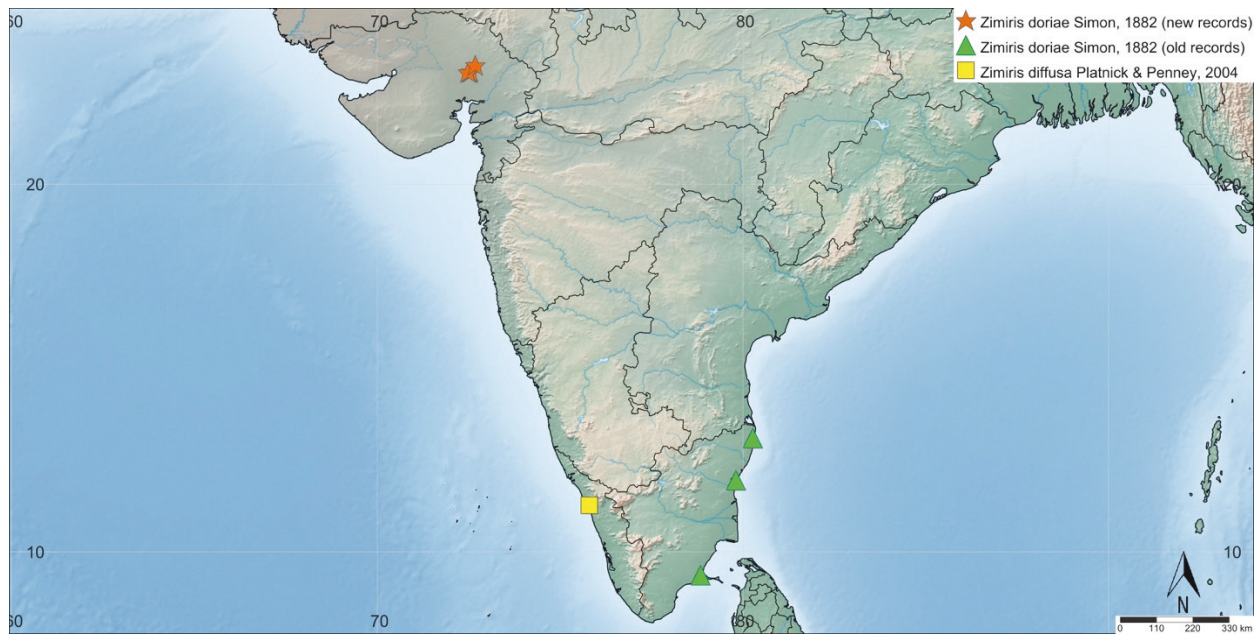


Figure 5. Distribution records of *Zimiris* spp. from India.

07.xi.2015, one female, Bopal (23.046°N & 72.478°E, 4.19m), Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India, coll. D.A. Prajapati; GEER421612D, 19.viii.2017, one female, Sector 28 (23.235°N & 72.678°E, 6.52m), Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India, coll. D.A. Prajapati.

Diagnosis: For detailed diagnosis, see Platnick & Penny (2004).

Description: Male (Images 3–6). Body length 3.04. Carapace length 1.68, width 1.37, height 0.64. Abdomen length 1.36, width 1.10, height 0.64. Pedipalp (Images 11–12, Figures 1–2): embolus filiform, supported by a narrow conductor (Image 11, Figure 1); sperm duct makes a crescent shaped curve before leading to the embolus (Image 11, Figure 1); RTA broad at the base, and narrowing toward a bunt tip, directed ventrad (Images 12, Figure 2).

Female (Images 1, 7–10): Body length 3.84. Carapace length 1.83, width 1.51, height 0.68. Abdomen length 2.01, width 1.54, height 0.97. Epigynum with ventro-medial omega shaped structure (Image 13, Figure 3); spermathecae spherical (Image 14, Figure 4); copulatory ducts long, narrow at proximal end and broad distally (Image 14, Figure 4).

Distribution in India: Gujarat: Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar (present record), Tamil Nadu: Chennai (erstwhile Madras), Puducherry, a union territory (erstwhile Pondicherry) and Ramanathapuram (erstwhile Ramnad) (Simon 1884; Sherriffs 1919; Cooke 1964) (Figure 5).

Natural history: This species is nocturnal and can be synanthropic (Sherriffs 919; Platnick & Penny 2004). All specimens in the present study were collected during the night, as they were wandering on walls in houses. However, one specimen was collected during the day time from a cloth shop, from inside a cloth box. A gravid female was also captured to observe its egg sac, which appeared as a hanging bell and it contained six pale yellowish eggs (Image 2).

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