

J. D. PATIL SANGLUDKAR MAHAVIDYALAYA, DARYAPUR

Department of Zoology

Report of

National symposium cum workshop on

‘Taxonomy and ecology of spiders’.

04-05, March , 2022

Sponsored and organized by-Department of Forest, Government of Maharashtra
Indian Society of Arachnology

In collaboration with- Spider Research Lab, J. D.
PatilSangludkarMahavidyalayaDaryapur,
RajarshiShahu Science College ChandurRly
Satpuda Foundation Amravati
BharatiyaMahavidyalayaMorshi

Participants- Forest guards and foresters (66)
College Students (23)

The Indian Society of Arachnology and Forest Training Institute (FTI) Chikhaldara jointly sponsored a 2-day National Symposium cum Workshop on taxonomy and ecology of spiders from 4th -5th March 2022 at Spider Museum, Forest Training Institute Chikhaldara. Total 66 forest guards, 23 students participated and the experts Dr AtulBodkhe, Associate Professor, J. D. PatilSangludkarMahavidyalaya, Daryapur, Dr Lal Sing, Senior Scientist, NEERI Nagpur, Dr GajananMuratkar, Prof and Head, Arts and Science college Chikhaldara, Dr Mahesh Chikhale, Assistant Professor, Rajarshee Science College ChandurRly, Dr GajananSantape Assistant Professor, Rajarshee Science College ChandurRly and Dr SawanDeshmukh, Assistant Professor, BhartiyaMahavidyalayaMorshi and Mr ShripadManthen, Walchand College Solapur demonstrated various methods related to spiders and delivered talks. This symposium cum workshop was successfully organized in collaboration with the Indian Science Congress Association, Amravati Chapter, Spider research lab. J. D. PatilSangludkarMahavidyalaya, Daryapur, Rajesh Shahu Science College, ChandurRly and CARS. The workshop was conducted successfully with the sincere efforts of Mr RoshanKaware, Mr MohitGawande and the staff of FTI Chikhaldara.

Details of the workshop:

Day 1 (4th March 2022):

Session I:

The first session of the workshop was inaugurated by Dr Lal Sing, Senior Scientist NEERI Nagpur and the session was Chaired by Shri. Sumant Solanke (IFS.), DyCF, Gugamal Wildlife Division, Chikhaldara. , Dr Atul Bodkhe, J. D. Patil Sangludkar Mahavidyalaya Daryapur, Maharashtra and President of Indian Society of Arachnology explain the introductory speech on the theme of Symposium cum workshop and Shri Bahale Saheb, Principal, Forest Research Institute, Chikhaldhara and Dr Gajanan Muratkar, Prof and Head, Arts and Science college Chikhaldara, were present and share his views. The first presentation of the session was made by Dr Atul Bodkhe and gave an overview of invertebrates and their importance in forest conservation with special reference to arachnids. His presentation was very detailed and had useful information which the forest trainees took note of with keen interest.

Why spiders are important?- by Dr Atul K. Bodkhe, Associate Professor, J. D. PatilSangludkar Mahavidyalaya Daryapur (MS)

Session II:

Post Lunch the lectures were taken by Dr Lal Sing, Senior Scientist NEERI Nagpur on 'Role of spider in ecological restoration of degraded land' and Dr GajananMuratkar was Chair the session. He focuses on patterns of web and diversity of spiders in his restoration site like Koradi Thermal Power Plant Nagpur and Khapary Village restoration site. In the evening participants were divided into three groups of experts. Mr ShripadManthen explains various methods of collection of spiders, web patterns, habitat, and occupying guilds. After fieldwork, practical sessions were started. Mr ShripadMathene and RoshanKaware demonstrated the general morphology of spiders under a microscope. The forest research training centre has a museum set up exclusively for spiders, the trainee visited that and observe all the pictures, holdings and specimens. After the spider museum visit, Dr GajananSantape was delivered his talk on the Pry Predator relationship of a spider. Dr GajananMuratkar was talked and discus on Role of spiders in the development of grass ecosystems in the protected area of wildlife in India.

- *Field visit to vegetation near Forest Training Institute*
- *Spider taxonomy- By Mr ShripadManthen*
- *Pry Predator Relationship of spiders- By Dr GajananSantape*
- *Role of spider in development of grassland ecosystem- By Dr GajananMuratkar*

- *Panel Discussions - by ShriBahaleSaheb, Dr Mahesh Chikhale, Dr GajananSantape and Dr SawanDeshmukh*

Day 2 (5th March 2022):

On the second day of the workshop, the entire team went for field collections on the FTI campus. The team was again divided into three groups and collections were made. The participants were very enthusiastic and they were having many queries about the diet, web design, sexual dimorphism and other related questions. It was a delight to observe the huge webs of *the Eresidae family*. The vegetation was dry but still, we got a good collection. Initial examination of the collection was made and we found to have collected individuals from ten families that are reported from India. The collection was labelled and deposited at the museum of Forest Research Institute, Chikaldhara. The participants were encouraged to identify the spider collection they made on the previous day of the field trip. They were grouped into five groups and then during the panel discussion one member of each group summarized their findings and made discussions on the same. The participation of these trainees was very important for the success of the workshop. Shri Y. S. Bahale encouraged the trainees from the start till the end of the workshop. His efforts were very well observed with the smooth functioning of all the sessions. In the valedictory function, Shri Kishor Rithe Member, State Board for Wildlife, Govt. of Maharashtra was the chief guest and he emphasized on the spider and other wild animal associations. He said spider will be included in the future conservation plan of the forest department.

- *Field visit to vegetation near Forest Training Institute*
- *Identification of web patterns and designs (Field-based examination) – by Dr Mahesh Chikhale*
- *Sorting, Dissection and Identification of collected spiders (Laboratory work) - Dr Shazia Quasin and Mr Subhash Kamble*
- *Scientific and social output by Spider Research Lab Daryapur - by Dr Atul Bodkhe, J. D. Patil Sangludkar Mahavidyalaya Daryapur, Maharashtra*
- *Spiders web patterns and its measurements - by Dr Mahesh Chikhale*
- *Valedictory function*

Photo Gallery



Convener

Principal