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Journal of Threatened Taxa

10.11609/jott.2023.15.5.23139-23282

www.threatenedtaxa.org

26 May 2023 (Online & Print)

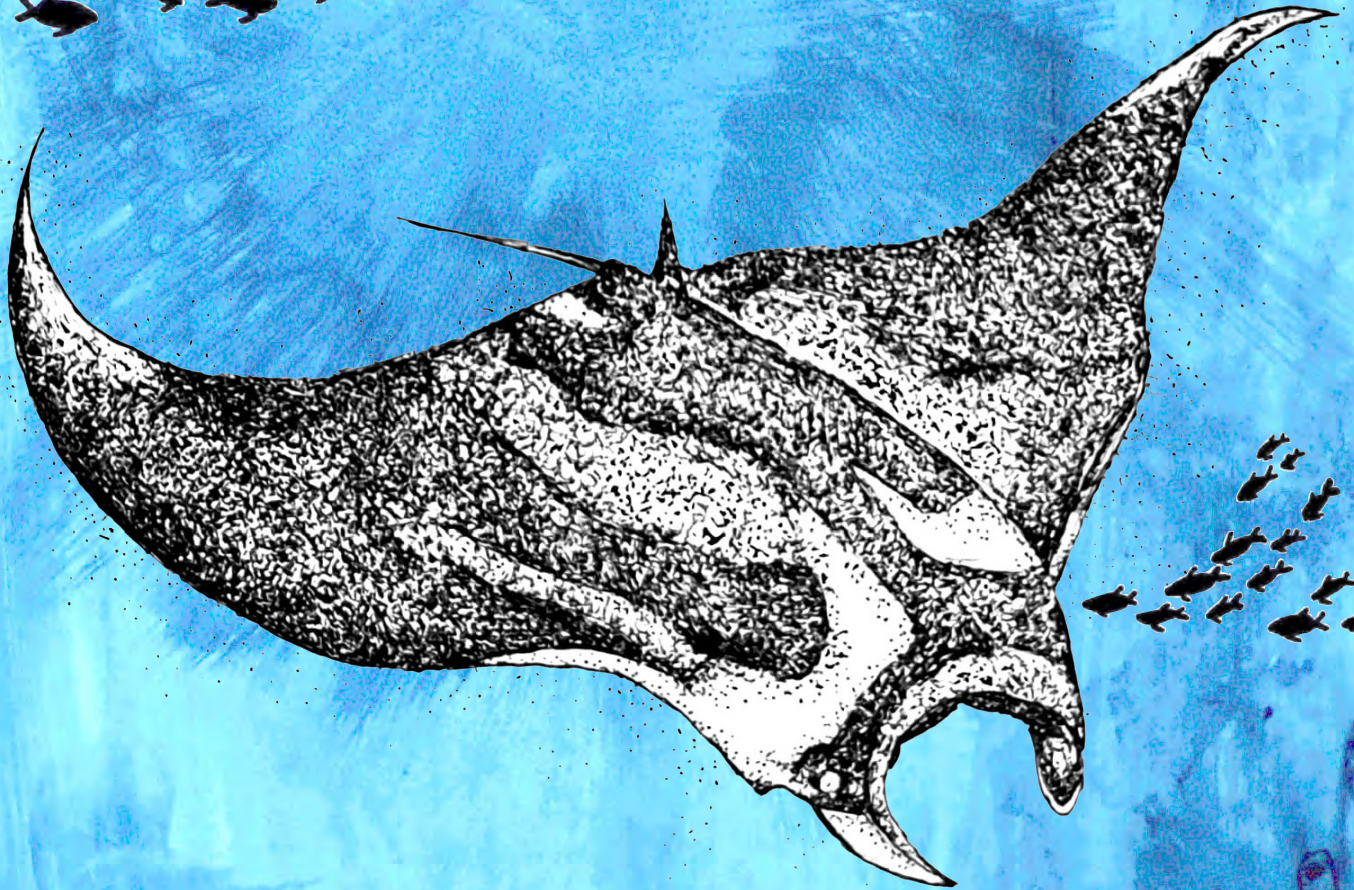
15(5): 23139-23282

ISSN 0974-7907 (Online)

ISSN 0974-7893 (Print)



Open Access





ISSN 0974-7907 (Online); ISSN 0974-7893 (Print)

Publisher
Wildlife Information Liaison Development Society
www.wild.zooreach.org

Host
Zoo Outreach Organization
www.zooreach.org

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continued on the back inside cover

Cover: Giant Oceanic Manta Ray *Mobula birostris* in ink on acrylic wash by Elakshi Mahika Molur adapted from scientific illustration by Roger Hall.



New distribution records of two jumping spiders (Araneae: Salticidae) from Gujarat, India

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Indian Plexippini is represented by 18 genera and 56 species (Maddison 2015; Caleb & Sankaran 2023). Of these, seven genera are reported from Gujarat State: *Epeus* Peckham & Peckham, *Bianor* Peckham & Peckham, *Harmochirus* Simon, *Hyllus* C.L.Koch, *Plexippus* C.L.Koch, *Telamonia* Thorell and *Thyene* Simon (Prajapati et al. 2016; Yadav et al. 2017). During recent surveys in Aravalli Hills, we identified two more plexippine jumping spider species which are new to Gujarat State. The present paper thus deals with the discovery and record of two species—*Vailimia ajmerensis* Caleb & Jangid, 2020 and *Modunda staintoni* (O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1872)—for the first time from the Aravalli Hills in Gujarat, India.

The specimens were hand collected and studied under a Leica M205 A stereomicroscope and the microphotographic images were taken by a Leica DFC2900 digital camera attached to the stereomicroscope and enabled with the software package Leica Application Suite (LAS), version 4.5.0. Left pedipalps were removed, studied and were photographed by placing them in a cavity block filled with ethanol. The species were identified by using Logunov (2001) and Basumatary et al. (2020). The examined specimens have been deposited in the reference collection of the Web of Nature (WON) Research Foundation, Gujarat, India.

Family Salticidae Blackwall, 1841

Genus *Modunda* Simon, 1901

Type species: *Modunda phragmitis* Simon, 1901

Modunda staintoni (O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1872)

Image 1, 4–5

Salticus staintoni O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1872: 331, pl. 14, fig. 20

Modunda staintoni Logunov, 2001: 277, figs. 347–366.

Material examined: WON100351, 21.v.2021, 1 male, India, Gujarat, Danta Village (24.191668°N, 77.7706°E), 777 m, from foliage, leg. S. Parmar.

Diagnosis: The species can be easily distinguished by the following characters: male pedipalp with rounded bulb; embolus long and slender, surrounding the bulb; Retrolateral tibial apophysis (RTA) robust, slightly curved (Image 4–5).

Distribution in India: Punjab (Logunov 2001) and Gujarat (new record) (Figure 1).

Genus *Vailimia* Kammerer, 2006

Type species: *Vailima masinei* G.W. Peckham & E.G. Peckham, 1907.

Editor: John T.D. Caleb, SIMATS, Saveetha University, Chennai, India.

Date of publication: 26 May 2023 (online & print)

Citation: Parmar, S. & D.A. Prajapati (2023). New distribution records of two jumping spiders (Araneae: Salticidae) from Gujarat, India. *Journal of Threatened Taxa* 15(5): 23276–23278. <https://doi.org/10.11609/jott.8463.15.5.23276-23278>

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Funding: Crowdfunding.

Competing interests: The authors declare no competing interests.

Acknowledgements: We are also thankful to Mrs Priyal Patel (WON Research Foundation, Ahmedabad) for her generous help in preparation of images.





Image 1–3: 1—*Modunda staintoni* (O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1872), male, dorsal view | 2–3—*Vailimia ajmerensis* Caleb & Jangid, 2020, frontal view. Scale bars: 1 mm (1–3). © Dhruv A. Prajapati.

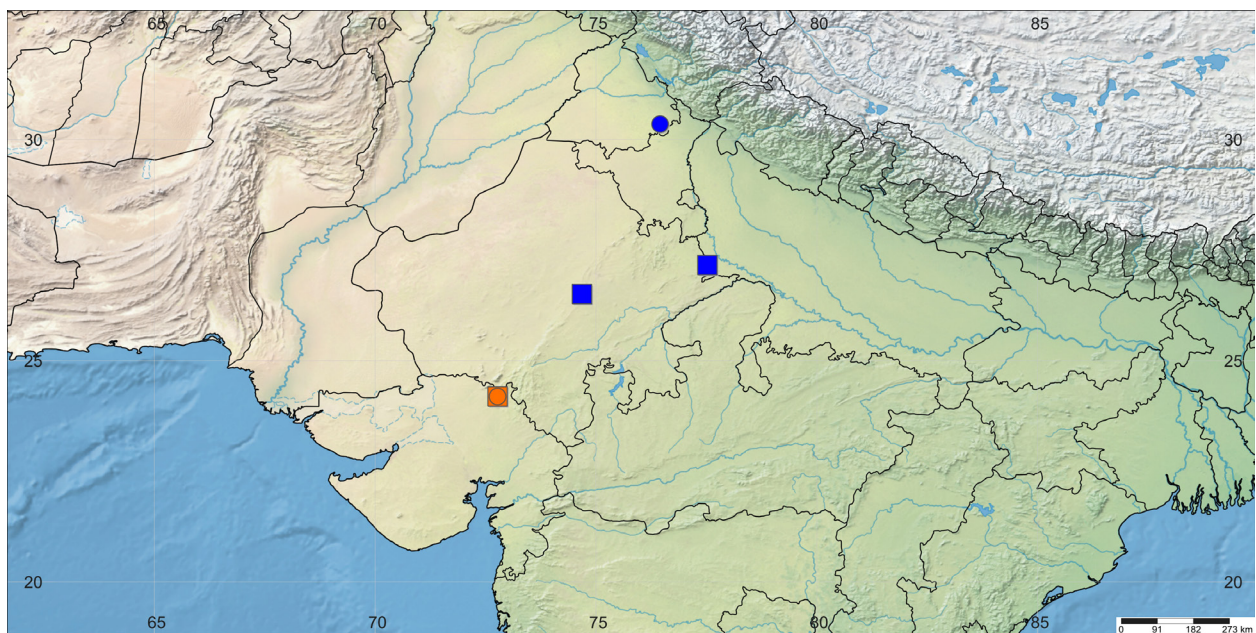


Figure 1. Distribution of *Modunda staintoni* (O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1872) (circles) & *Vailimia ajmerensis* Caleb & Jangid, 2020 (squares) | Blue color—previous record | Saffron color—new record.

Vailimia ajmerensis Caleb & Jangid, 2020

Image 2–3, 6–7

Vailimia ajmerensis Caleb & Jangid, in Basumatary et al. 2020: 180, figs. 1–11.

Material examined: WON100639, 21.v.2021, 1 male, India, Gujarat, Danta Village (24.191667°N, 77.7707°E),

777 m, from foliage, leg. S. Parmar.

Diagnosis: The species can be easily distinguished by the following characters: male pedipalp with long embolus, its base thick and broad and the tip narrowed, directed at 2 o'clock position (Image 6); RTA long and simple, broad at the base and tapered at the tip, with a

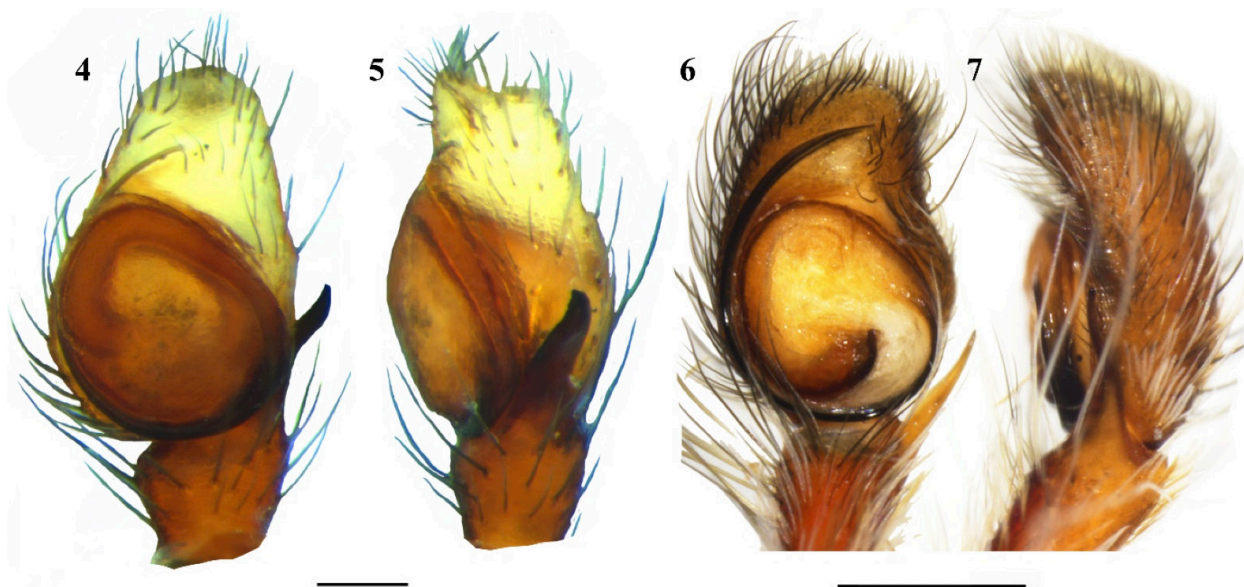


Image 4–7: 4–5—Male left pedipalps of *Modunda staintoni* (O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1872) | 6–7—& *Vailimia ajmerensis* Caleb & Jangid, 2020. (4, 6) ventral view. (5, 7) retrolateral view. Scale bars: 0.1 mm (4–7). © Dhruv A. Prajapati.

slight curve distally (Image7).

Distribution: Rajasthan (Basumatary et al. 2020) and Gujarat (new record) (Figure 1).

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NAAS rating (India) 5.64



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ISSN 0974-7907 (Online) | ISSN 0974-7893 (Print)

May 2023 | Vol. 15 | No. 5 | Pages: 23139–23282

Date of Publication: 26 May 2023 (Online & Print)

DOI: 10.11609/jott.2023.15.5.23139-23282

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