On taxonomy and behavioural biology of ant mimicking jumping spider Mymaplata plataleoides O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1869 (Araneae: Salticidae)



montage

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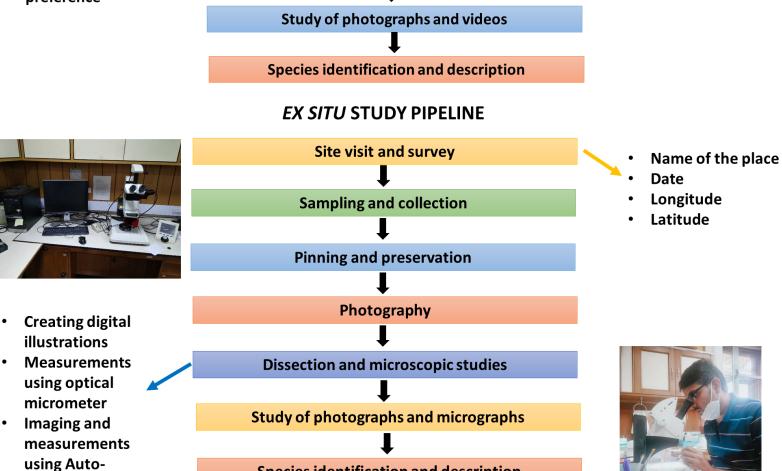
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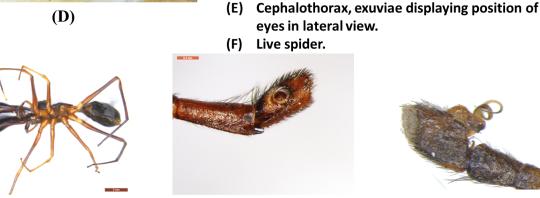


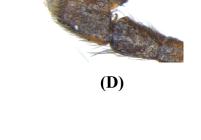
In present study, we have reported ant mimicking jumping spider Mymaplata plataleoides O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1869 from Nothern Chhotanagpur Plateau region which is the first record of this species from the state of Jharkhand. Digital illustrations and descriptions of both male and female spiders, the female's exuviae, and description of its habitat are also presented. We have studied its moulting and feeding behaviour in detail, and have recorded various behavioural aspects like prey preference, mate preference, debris rolling behaviour, wet surface avoidance, structure of eggs, etc. which was never documented before. We report hereby the occurrence of this spider near the colonies of ground nesting ant Camponotus compressus Fabricius, 1787 which is unusual because this spider is known to mimic Asian weaver ant Oecophylla smaragdina Fabricius, 1787. Specimens collected by us are darker than commonly reported materials and we suggest that the darker colouration may be an adaptation to co-exist with C. compressus which are also dark in colour Ant mimicking jumping spider Myrmaplata plataleoides O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1869 **Materials and methods** (Araneae: Salticidae) IN SITU STUDY PIPELINE Name of the Site visit and survey place Date Photography and videography of animal and its Longitude Type of habitat Latitude vegetation **Dominant trees** On site studies of behaviour and habitat **(A) (E) (F)** preference Study of photographs and videos Myrmaplata plataleoides O. Pickard-Cambridge, Species identification and description (A) Habitus of preserved specimen, dorsal view. (B) Habitus of preserved specimen, ventral view.



Species identification and description

(A) (B)





Myrmaplata plataleoides O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1869 (male). (A) Habitus of preserved specimen, dorsal view. Habitus of preserved specimen, ventral view. Palp, dorsolateral view.

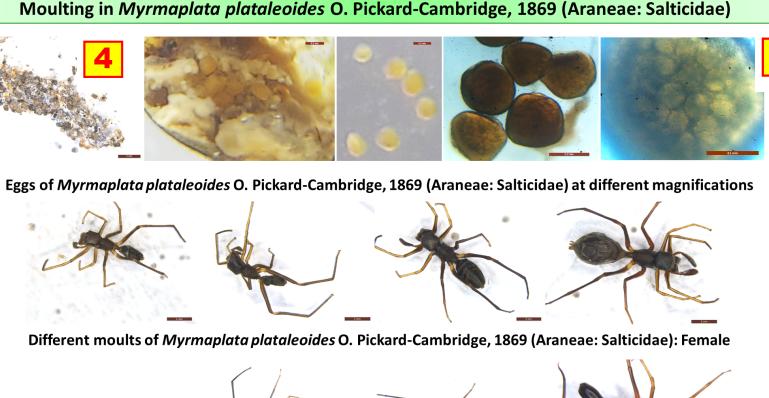
(C)

Palp, ventrolateral view.

(C) Epigyne, ventral view.

(D) Epigyne, dorsal view

Live spider.









Ethology of Myrmaplata plataleoides O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1869 (Araneae: Salticidae)







Female exuviae



