

- **One syllable.** The last syllable is never accented, except for words with only one – *trux* is a rare example in UK spiders.
- **Two syllables.** The accent goes on the next-to-last, the penult. *FERox*, *STURmi*.
- **Three or more syllables.** The accent will go on the next to the last (penult) or the third from the last (antepenult). The slightly complex rule is:
 - Penult. The next to the last (penult) is accented
 - if it ends in a consonant – *quadratus* (quad-RATE-us)
 - if it ends in a diphthong – *merianae* (merry-AN-eye)
 - if it ends in a long vowel, e.g., *alsine* (al-SINE-ae)
 - Antepenult. In other 3+ syllable names the accent goes with the third from the last syllable (antepenult) – *cuspidata* (cus-PID-da-ta).

Commemoratives

There are two ways to approach names including people or places. They can be Latinised using the rules above or the commemorative element can be pronounced and accented as in the original language of the person or place.

The general pronunciation rule preferred at the workshop is to simply pronounce the commemorative as it would be pronounced in the language of that person or place, then add the ending. However, in practice the commemorative pronunciation is usually converted to the language of the speaker, as pronunciation in the original language of that person may be unknown. How is Saaristo pronounced in Finnish? Simpler examples are *bruennichi* (broon-ich-eye) – and *Argiope* as (Ar-GUY-op-aye!) and *hardyi* (hardy-eye). Sometimes this leads to odd results. I find *Robertus* as rob-ERT-us (Latinise) somehow more natural than robert-us.

Complex names

While not really part of the discussion of Latinised names, the complexity of some names presents problems, more to do with untangling them than their pronunciation. I find names like *Pityohyphantes phrygianus* and *Achaearanea tepidiorum* difficult to decode and remember. More names like *Maso gallicus* and *Midia midas* please, taxonomists.

Conclusion

It cannot be said often enough – the bottom line has to be that we understand each other. The guidelines here may help with that or lead to further discussion.

More reading

There are a number of websites dealing with scientific pronunciation, often American and frequently botanical. Two I found useful were:

www.sci.sdsu.edu/plants/plantsystematics/botnames.html
<http://entomology.ifas.ufl.edu/frank/KISS/kiss10.htm>

E-mail: ahlavery@outlook.com

Second SpiderIndia Meet in Hoollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary, Assam, India

by Paris Basumatary

SpiderIndia was initiated in September 2005 as a citizen science community to learn about spiders of the Indian subcontinent. As an initial communications channel the group decided to use Yahoo groups (Barve, 2018). The focus of the group was to help citizen scientists identify spiders from photographs they had taken in the field. In 2011 membership of the group was about 400. When the group recently migrated to the new Facebook community it had more than 7000 members (Barve *et al.*, 2018). Since July 2012 the SpiderIndia group of the India Biodiversity Portal (Barve *et al.*, 2013) was initiated and then the SpiderIndia iNaturalist project (Barve & Kulkarni, 2018) was launched to capture Indian Araneae data systematically in one place. To bring the group together for personal interactions and exchange, SpiderIndia meetings were initiated in 2016 in Kolkata, India.

The second SpiderIndia meet was organised by Foundation India in collaboration with Nature mates and SpiderIndia – Diversity India group in Hoollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary, Assam. The organising team included Vijay Barve (Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Florida museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL USA), Devi Priyadarshini (Scientist B, Regional Museum of Natural History), Dr Atul Vartak (Doctor and citizen scientist), Arjan Basu Roy (Secretary, Nature mates), Nilutpal Mahanta, Sangeeta Das, Nazrul Islam, Bhaskarjyoti Kalita and Samujjal Saharia (WE Foundation, India).

All the participants arrived at Guwahati (ISBT) on the evening of the 21st December 2018 and travelled by bus from ISBT to the venue. The participants reached the Hoollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary on the 22nd December at around 5:30am and registration started at 10:00am. This was followed by breakfast with a local Assam delicacy called pithas served on the lawn in front of the forest guesthouse surrounded by lush green rainforest and mesmerised by the calls of Hoolock Gibbons.

Logo

The logo of the conference includes the rare spider *Macracantha arcuata*, which in India is only found in the Hoollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary, and another species from the family Nemesiidae.

Participants

There were 23 spider enthusiasts from six states namely, Assam, Chattisgarh, West Bengal, Karnataka, Orissa and



Figure 1. Banner and venue of 2nd SpiderIndia meeting.



Figure 2. Group photo.

Maharashtra registered for the meet. The participants came from various backgrounds: students, researchers, photographers, representatives of Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology & Environment (ATREE), Nature Campers and Wings & Webs.

On the 22nd December the programme began with an inauguration and welcome speech by Nilutpal Mahanta, WE Foundation.

The programme consisted of a total of five sessions; three field and two technical sessions held over three days. There were five presentations on the topics of spider systematics, ecology, curation, phylogenomics and macro-photography.

Day 1

The first day began with a field session after the tea break following the inauguration ceremony. For the field session participants were divided into two groups to cover compartments 1 and 2 of Gibbon WLS. The field survey lasted for four hours and was followed by lunch. The “who’s who” session began after lunch, followed by a short tea break and then the first technical session presented by Siddharth Kulkarni (Doctoral student from the George Washington University, Washington D.C.) on the topic “Spider Systematics”. This presentation covered important topics like reproductive isolation in spiders, identification keys to spider systematics, highlights on the putative clade of symphytognathoids, usage of common names for spider taxonomy and the importance of taxonomy. The second presentation was by Dr Rakhi Roy from the Wings & Web organisation, West Bengal on “Spider Curation”. This covered topics on spider collection techniques, handling techniques, specimen preparation, preservation and submission. This was

Figure 3. *Phyrnarachne* sp. female © Satyen Mehta.Figure 4. *Macracantha* sp. female. © Atul Vartak.Figure 5. *Rhomphoea* sp. female with prey *Leucauge* sp. female. © Debomay Chanda.

Figure 6. Ranjit Kakati trying out diffuser made from white paper.



Figure 7. Field time.



Figure 8. Nilutpal Mahanta & Nazrul Islam preparing the famous Assamese duck curry.



Figure 9. Last selfie on last day.



Figure 10. Participants having some chit-chat on the last day.

proceeded by the third presentation, given by Ayan Mondal (Doctoral student, Burdwan University), on the “Ecology of spiders – untangling a tangled web” covering important topics on ecological aspects, neural network modelling for ecological data, microhabitat structure and niche concept. The final presentation of the day was given by Sangeeta Das (Doctoral student, Gauhati University) on the topic “Parasitism in *Argiope* Spiders”.

The technical session ended with a short documentary on spider silk from the lab of Dr Cheryl Hayashi (American Museum of Natural History, New York). The day concluded with dinner, followed by listing the spiders seen that day and, finally, bedtime.

Day 2

On the second day participants were awoken by the noise of trampling on the guesthouse roof by *Macaca assamensis* (Assam macaque). The day started with breakfast followed by another field survey of compartment 1. After lunch and an interlude break the second technical session began. The first presentation of the day was given by Atul Vartak, photographer and independent researcher on the topic “Fun with macro” which covered macro photography, camera components, ethics and the importance of diffusion in photography. Siddharth Kulkarni followed on with a talk entitled “Indian Arachnology in the era of next-gen sequencing”. This addressed important topics on phylogenomics, present problems with conducting research in India and their prospective solutions. The third presentation was given by Dhruva Chandra Dhali (Assistant Professor, Shyampur Siddheswari Mahavidyalaya, West Bengal) on “Arachnofauna (Araneae and Thelyphonida: Arachnida) of Pokode Lake, Wayanad, Kerala”, covering topics on arthropod classification, spiders as a bioresource, collection techniques and the spider fauna of the Wayanad lakes of Kerala. The last presentation was given by Rohit George (ATREE) on “Citizen science” where he spoke on the importance of the Indian Biodiversity Portal and the methods by which an individual can contribute to citizen science by submitting records.

This was immediately followed by an open discussion where the key topics were: whether or not spiders can be used as bio-control agents; pros and cons of having common names for spiders; project funding for arachnology; spider dispersal abilities and reproductive isolation.

After the technical session there was a short night-trail where a rare spider *Phyrnarachne* sp., also known as the bird dung spider, was recorded. Dinner comprised a mouthwatering dish of duck, a delicacy of Assam prepared by Nilutpal Mahanta. Following checklist preparation, it was time for bed.



Figure 11. Team WE Foundation. © Ivy Farheen.

Day 3

The third day started with the usual morning alarm by Assam macaques. Breakfast was followed by a short trip into the forest. This trip was a memorable one as some of the participants stumbled upon a skeleton of what appeared to be an Assam macaque; this is the first record of a primate skeleton from Hoollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary. After the field session the participants had lunch, and then tallied up the final checklist. In total 42 species of spiders belonging to 42 genera in 19 families were recorded.

The participants then started packing their bags followed by a tea break. A valedictory session was held where we had a vote of thanks by Sangeeta Das, as organiser's representative, Siddharth Kulkarni, as a SpiderIndia representative, and Prosenjit Dawn representing the participants.

There was an informal good-bye session for all the participants, concluded by certificate distribution. By the end of the day the participants boarded the night super-bus from Jorhat town to ISBT Guwahati.

Future

The second SpiderIndia meet identified gaps in present arachnological research in India and decided to cover a few key points in the next meeting: field collection and handling, hands-on training for spider genitalia dissection, using molecular techniques, oral and poster presentations by students and more technical presentations by active researchers and scientists.

All the participants enjoyed a very well organised meeting, with interesting talks and posters, coupled with delicious Assamese cuisines and the opportunity to meet new friends and colleagues. The family of SpiderIndia meet is growing at a healthy pace. Thanks to all the organisers and I hope to see you at the next meeting (venue to be decided).

Reference

- Barve, V. 2018. SpiderIndia Yahoo Group." <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/SpiderIndia/>.
- Barve, V. & Kulkarni, S. 2018. "SpiderIndia iNaturalist Project." <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/spiderindia>.
- Barve, V., Kulkarni, S., Vartak, A., Gawai, A. & Caleb, J. 2018. "SpiderIndia Facebook Community." www.facebook.com/groups/SpiderIndia/.
- Barve, V., Vattakaven, T., Kulkarni, S., Vartak, A., Rao, D., Siliwal, Prabhakar, M. R., George, R. & Thalavai pandi, S. 2013. "SpiderIndia Group." India Biodiversity Portal. <http://indiabiodiversity.org/group/spiderindia/>.

Doctoral student, Dept. of Zoology, Bodoland University, Assam, India.

The B.A.S. in 2017: Synopsis of the Annual Report

This brief overview is based on the Trustees' Annual Report submitted to the Charity Commission and the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator, and which is available in the Members' Area of the B.A.S. website: <https://bit.ly/2JwSbk2>

Recording and monitoring

By the end of 2017, around 1,060,000 spider records were held in the Spider Recording Scheme (S.R.S.) database. Since April 2014 the website has had some 330,000 visits from over 230,000 users from almost 200 countries/territories, with approaching 1.5 million page views. The many additional facilities on the S.R.S. have been well used. That enabling members of the public to contribute towards our monitoring of 14 "easily recognisable" spider species generated 400 records; we hope to add more species to this list during 2018. Since March 2015, there have been more than 100,000 downloads of species reports and over 10,000 downloads for identification guidance on difficult species groups.

To the end of 2017, the H.R.S. database held more than 47,000 records. The website includes distribution maps of all British harvestmen, with associated habitat details and photographs of all species. Full species accounts will be added early in 2018.

Following the publication in 2016 of the Field Studies Council's *Illustrated key to the British false scorpions (Pseudoscorpions)*, authored by Francis Farr-Cox and Gerald Legg, several identification courses were held which, together with a flourishing Facebook page, have stimulated the study of the order. Approaching 9000 records are on the N.B.N. database and Atlas.

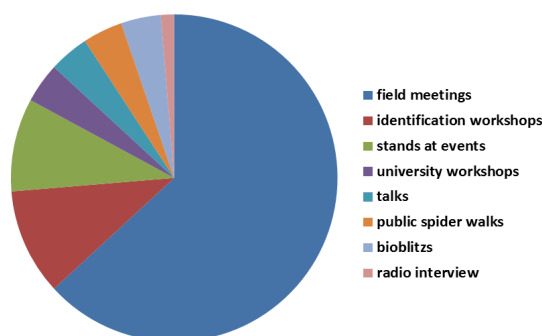


Figure 1. Approximate breakdown of B.A.S. activities during 2017 .

Underpinning conservation

This year saw the conclusion of our long-running work on a new status review for Britain's spiders, *A review of the scarce and threatened spiders (Araneae) of Great Britain* (see **Publications and communications** below).

Some very significant finds of some of our most threatened species, many of them as a result of work commissioned by N.R.W., and by the Tanyptera Trust, were made by B.A.S. council member Richard Gallon during 2017. Another very important discovery was of the philodromid *Thanais formicinus* on the National Trust's (NT) estate at Clumber Park, Nottinghamshire. Previously found at only two sites in southern England, most recently