

## First record of *Portia albimana* (Simon, 1900) from Bangalore, Karnataka in southwestern India (Araneae: Salticidae: Spartaeina)

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The genus *Portia* Karsch, 1878 is represented in India by four species: *P. fimbriata*, Doleschall, 1859, *P. labiata* Thorell, 1887, *P. albimana* Simon, 1900 and *P. assamensis* Wanless, 1978 (Wanless, 1978; WSC, 2020). Of these, *P. albimana* has been reported from Mumbai, Maharashtra in western India, Vellore, Tamil Nadu in southern India, and Doon valley, Uttarakhand along the Himalayan foothills in northern India (Wanless, 1978; Murphy & Murphy, 1983; Ahmed et. al., 2015). Here we report the presence of this species in Bangalore, the capital city of Karnataka in southwestern India.

On 23. FEB 2020, around midday, while on a field expedition at the University of Agricultural Sciences, at the Gandhi Krishi Vigyana Kendra (GKVK), in Bangalore, the authors lifted a decomposing log in the university's cashew plantation to find the web of a curtain web spider (Dipluridae: Ischnothlinae). This spider (Figure 1) was identified by its small size, procurved, transverse fovea, very long, tapered posterior lateral spinnerets and its characteristic sheet web, bearing a tubular retreat (Coyle, 1995). The log also contained a colony of *Paratrechina longicornis* (Latreille, 1802), popularly known as the black crazy ant.

While attempting to locate the resident of this curtain web, we observed a small brown salticid lowering itself on a dragline (Figure 2). The long fringed legs and abdominal hair tufts of this salticid were characteristic of the genus *Portia* (Wanless, 1978). Subsequently we identified this as an adult female *P. albimana* (Simon, 1900), based on the dense cover and crescent-shaped pattern of white setae on the clypeus, appearing as a white mustache beneath the anterior median eyes (Murphy & Murphy, 1983; Wanless, 1978).

Ahmed et al. (2015) reported that *P. albimana* used the funnel-sheet webs of wolf spiders belonging to the genus *Hippasa* Simon 1885, as nocturnal retreats. Here we add Dipluridae to the list of spider families whose webs *may* be utilised as retreats by *P. albimana*. This marks the first time that a *Portia* has been recorded in association with a member of the infraorder Mygalomorphae Pocock, 1892.





**Figure 1.** Mygalomorph (Dipluridae: Ischnothlinae) with curtain web found under a fallen log in Bengaluru. **1-2**, Detailed views of spider. Note the long, tapered lateral spinnerets (1). **3**, Spider (arrow) in curtain web.





**Figure 2.** Views of the adult female *Portia albimana* found in association with the diplurid shown in Figure 1. 5, Note the inverted crescent of bright white scales on the clypeus of this female. The clypeus of the adult male has a similar mark (Ahmed et. al., 2015).

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