

# *Clynotis* Simon, 1901

## Taxonomy

*Clynotis* has one described Australian species: *Clynotis severus*, formerly *Clynotis viduus*. Species previously in this genus have been moved to *Pungalina* and *Tara* by Richardson (2016). The genus is part of an Australasian clade (Maddison et al 2008) including *Abracadabrella*, *Apricia*, *Holoplatys*, *Huntiglennia*, *Ocrisiona*, *Opisthoncus*, *Paraphilaeus*, *Paraplatoides*, *Pungalina*, *Tara*, *Trite* and *Zebraplatys* (Maddison 2015). Further information on the genus and described species can be found in Richardson and Żabka (2017) and Whyte and Anderson (2017).

## Description

*Clynotis* is a medium-sized spider, ranging in body length from 5 to 9 mm. The head is high in profile when viewed side-on and, when viewed from above, almost rectangular in shape. The abdomen is elongate-ovate. The chelicerae have a single retromarginal tooth (unident) and two teeth on the promargin. The legs are slender and relatively even in length. There is a commonly encountered melanic (black) form.

The male's palp has a long, slender cymbium with a short embolus arising from a large base near the distal edge of the tegulum. The tegulum has a small proximal lobe. A short retro-lateral tibial apophysis has a suddenly-narrowed, sharp section at the tip.

The female has a single epigynal atrium, the copulatory openings near its posterior edge. Highly-convoluted, combined insemination ducts and spermathecae travel between and posteriorly to the atrium. Two large, laterally-located spermathecae, and a pair of parallel ducts are visible on each side of a median pocket in the epigastric fold.

## Biology

*Clynotis severus* is found in habitats ranging from rainforest to desert. It is found in litter, on foliage and under bark.

## Distribution

*Clynotis severus* is a common and widespread species found throughout Australia, including Tasmania. It is also found in southern Papua New Guinea.

## References

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Żabka, M. 1987. Salticidae (Araneae) of Oriental, Australian and Pacific Regions, I. Genera *Clynotis* and *Tara*. *Annales Zoologici, Warszawa* 40: 437-450.

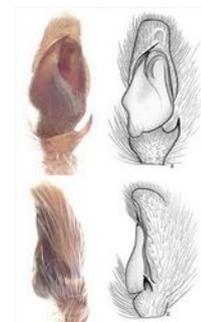
\* The information sheet should be interpreted in the context of the associated diagrams and photographs. Diagrams explaining anatomical terms can be found in the 'Salticidae' pictures at the beginning of the list of genera.



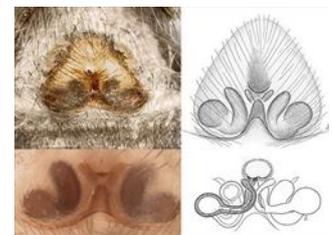
Examples of live *Clynotis severus*  
Illustrator (and ©) R. Whyte (BR), I.R. Macaulay



Aspects of the general morphology of  
*Clynotis severus*  
Illustrators (and ©) B.J. Richardson (CSIRO),  
M. Żabka (diag.) (QMB)



Palp morphology of *Clynotis severus*  
Illustrators (and ©) B.J. Richardson (CSIRO),  
M. Żabka (diag.) (QMB)



Epigyne morphology of *Clynotis severus*  
Illustrators (and ©) R. Whyte (TL), B.J. Richardson (CSIRO), M. Żabka (diag.) (QMB)