

Parahelpis Gardzinska & Zabka, 2010

Taxonomy

Parahelpis has two Australian species: *P. abnormis* and *P. smithae*. The genus is part of an Australasian clade (Maddison et al 2008) including the Australian genera *Adoxotoma*, *Arasia*, *Astia*, *Astilodes*, *Helpis*, *Jacksonoides*, *Megaloaestia*, *Sondra* and *Tauala*. Genera from Indonesia (*Katya*) and the Philippines (*Orthrus*) may also be part of this group (Maddison 2015). Further information on the genus and described species can be found in Richardson and Żabka (2017).

Description

Known only from male specimens, *Parahelpis* spp. are medium to large-sized, slender spiders, body length 10 to 15 mm, with an elongate-ovate abdomen. The head, viewed from above, is pear-shaped, widest well behind the posterior lateral eyes. The cephalothorax is high, with a gentle thoracic slope starting immediately behind the posterior lateral eyes. Chelicerae are long and have five or more (plurident) retromarginal teeth and four or more promarginal teeth. The first legs are very long and slender with four pairs of ventrolateral spines. The third legs are the shortest.

The male's palpal tibia has a short or long, broad, bifurcate retro-lateral tibial apophysis. The tegulum is long, with a large proximal lobe. The seminal duct runs up the centre of the tegulum. The embolus is short.

The structure of the epigyne is unknown.

Biology

Specimens of this genus have been found in rainforest and woodland under rocks.

Distribution

Parahelpis has been collected in New South Wales and Queensland.

References

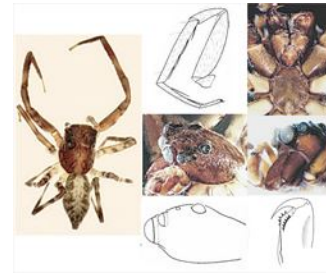
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Maddison, W.P. 2015. A phylogenetic classification of jumping spiders (Araneae: Salticidae). *Journal of Arachnology* 43, 231-292.

Maddison, W.P., Bodner, M.R. & Needham, K.M. 2008. Salticid spider phylogeny revisited, with the discovery of a large Australian clade (Araneae: Salticidae). *Zootaxa* 1893, 49-64.

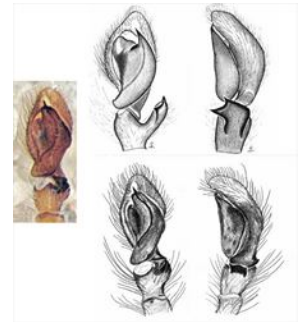
Richardson, B.J. & Żabka, M. 2016. Salticidae. Arachnida: Araneomorphae. Canberra, Australian Faunal Directory. Australian Biological Resources Study, at <https://biodiversity.org.au/afd/taxa/SALTICIDAE>.

* 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.



Aspects of the general morphology of *Parahelpis*

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Palp morphology of *Parahelpis*

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