

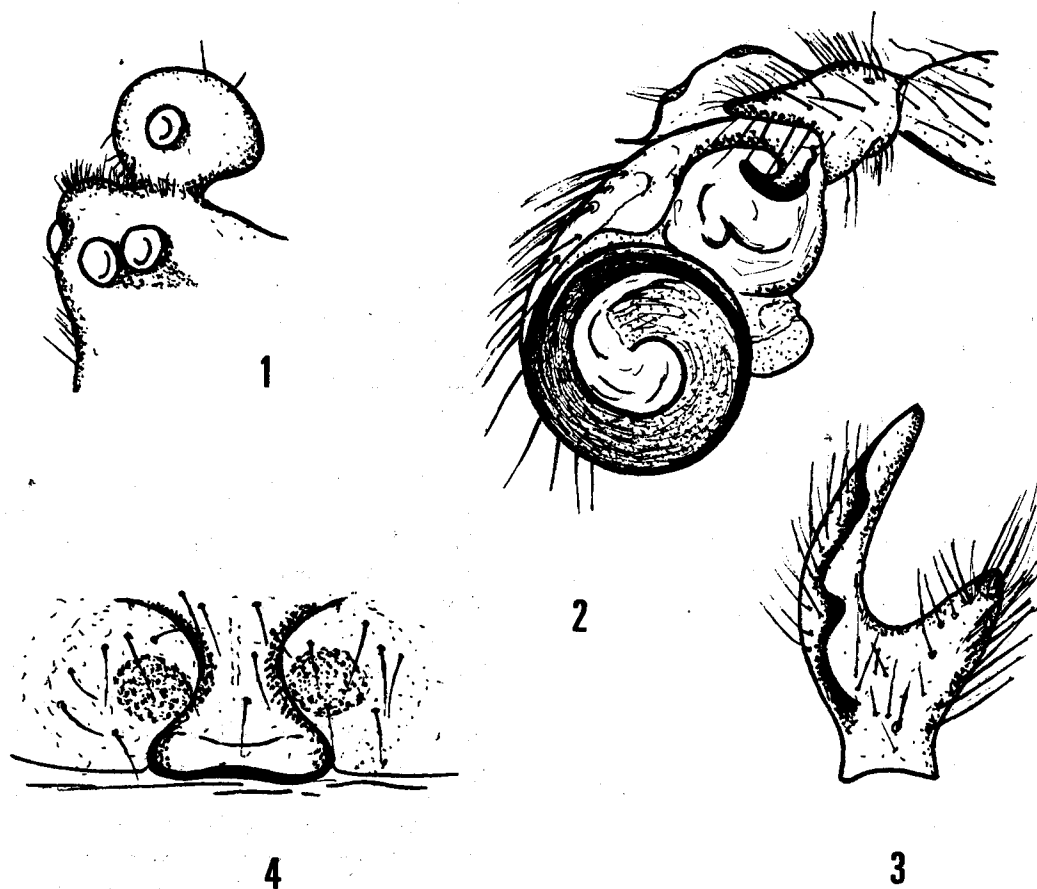
Wideria mitrata (Menge). A Spider new to Britain (Araneae: Linyphiidae).

P.H. Swann

Introduction

During the years 1967-68 Dr. I.N. Healey and Mr. A. Russell-Smith of King's College, London carried out pitfall trapping at Blean Woods near Canterbury. The trapping site was a mature chestnut coppice and

the traps were emptied every two weeks. During an examination of the spiders by the author, three males and two females of *Wideria mitrata* (Menge) were found; a species not previously recorded from the British Isles. Two males and one female were caught in the period 13-27 April 1967, a single male in the period 27 April - 11 May 1967 and a single female in the period 16 November - 14 December 1967. The traps were emptied only once in four weeks. A full account of the habitat and trapping results is in preparation.



Figs. 1-4. 1. Cephalic lobe of male
2. Left male palp from side
3. Right male palpal tibia from above
4. Epigyne of female

Description

The following description and drawings have been prepared from the British material.

Family: LINYPHIIDAE (Erigoninae)

Genus: *Wideria* E. Simon 1864

Species: *Wideria mitrata* (Menge)

Lophomma mitrata (and *L. capito* ?) A. Menge 1866-79, p.216; *Wideria mitrata* E. Simon 1926, pp.409-411; A. Tullgren 1955, p.357; H. Wiehle 1960, p.129.

LENGTH: ♀♂ : ca. 3 mm. CARAPACE: Brown to dark brown, fovea marked distinctly in black. Radiating striae dark brown. ♂ Head raised into an almost spherical lobe (Fig. 1). EYES: ♀: Posterior row slightly procurved, posterior medians less than 0.5 diam. apart. ABDOMEN: Grey to greenish grey. STERNUM: Light brown. LEGS: Uniform yellow-brown. Tm I 0.5. Tibial spines 2211, all very small and thin. EPIGYNE: Fig. 4. MALE PALP: Figs. 2 and 3.

Distribution

Wiehle records *W. mitrata* from Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, France, Czechoslovakia, Austria and Hungary. The only British records so far are from Blean Woods, Kent (Grid Reference TR109605).

Acknowledgements

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References

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Micyrphantidae. Jena.
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Ark.Zool. 2 (7),

EDITOR'S NOTE

Various improvements have been embodied in this first part of Volume 2, most significant being the change of typeface. These improvements have necessarily increased publication costs and with the proposed increase in postal charges, certain economies will have to be made in the size of the Bulletin. It is intended to issue Volume 2 in quarterly parts, as previously, but it may be necessary to limit the number of issues in 1971 to three.

Comments from members for further improvements to the Bulletin will receive careful consideration.

BOOK REVIEW

The Zoological Record Volume 105,
Section 12 for 1968,
Arachnida. Compiled by Ernest Brown-
ing, M.B.E.
Published by the Zoological Society of London. Price
£2.00

This section of the Zoological Record was published in October 1970 and covers information relative to the Class Arachnida for the year 1968. The general pattern follows that of previous years; listing all the papers received by the Zoological Society from authors throughout the world. There is a detailed Subject Index and an Author's Index cross referenced to this, also a Systematic Index. It would seem that quite as many (if not more) new species are described as in 1967, in many of the 1,600 or so papers listed. The volume is produced with the usual paper-back cover and has a total of 38 pages against 106 for the previous volume. The price remains unchanged at two pounds plus postage, obtainable from The Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, London N.W.1. Scientific arachnology today could hardly continue without it!