

The rediscovery of *Altella lucida* Simon in Britain

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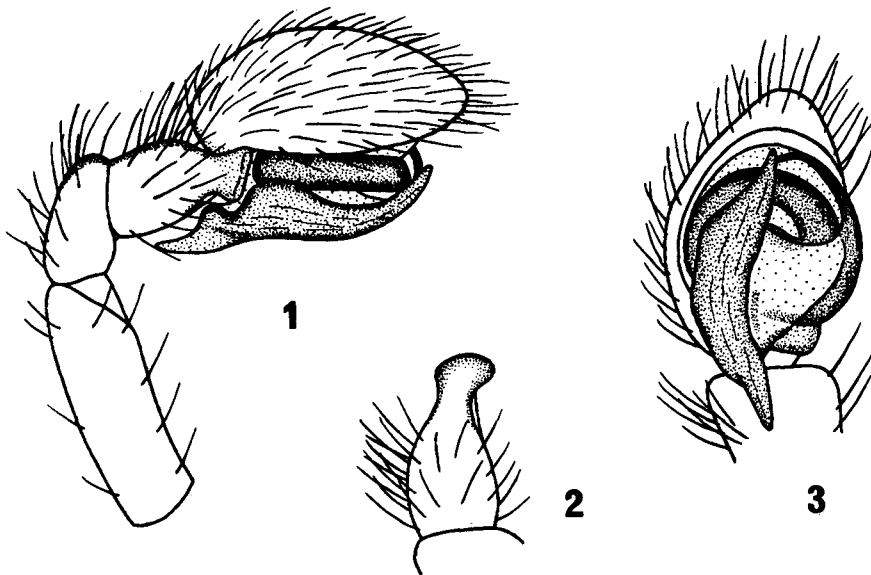
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A single male of *Altella lucida* Simon was taken in a pitfall trap at Morden Bog National Nature Reserve, Dorset, between 13 April and 25 May 1971. The trap was one of a series of six in an area of dry heathland, consisting mainly of tall old *Calluna vulgaris* interspersed with open stony patches. The only previous British record was a male found by F.M. Campbell in his house at Hoddesdon (Herts) in 1880 (Locket & Millidge, 1951), and because of its artificial habitat the status of this species as a member of the British fauna has long been in doubt. According to Wiehle (1953), it has been recorded in Germany and France under stones in dry wasteland,

so the habitat at Morden may be similar to that of some continental localities. As the male palp was not figured in detail by Locket & Millidge (1951) because of the risk of damage to the only specimen available, it is illustrated here in Figs 1 to 3.

References

- LOCKET, G.H. & MILLIDGE, A.F. 1951: *British Spiders* 1, 1-310. Ray Society, London.
- WIEHLE, H. 1953: Spinnentiere oder Arachnoidea (Araneae). IX: Orthognatha - Cribellatae - Haplogynae Entelegynae. *Tierwelt Dtl.* 42, 1-50.



Figs 1-3: *Altella lucida* Simon.

1, male palp from outside; 2, male palpal tibia from outside and slightly behind; 3, male palp from below.