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First record of the cobweb spider (*Steatoda erigoniformis*) from Gujarat

The genus *Steatoda* Sundevall, 1833 (Family Theridiidae) is represented by 6 species in India (Caleb & Sankaran 2025). *Steatoda erigoniformis* has been previously reported from Maharashtra and Rajasthan (Tripathi *et al*. 2023). Here we provide the first report from Gujarat State. The specimens were hand-collected and studied under a Zeiss Stemi 508 stereomicroscope, photographed using an Axiocam Erc 5s microscopic camera. The species was identified based on Levy & Amitai (1982) and Tripathi *et al*. (2023). The specimens have been deposited in the Department of Zoology, R.R. Lalan College, Bhuj-Kachchh, Gujarat, India.

Steatoda erigoniformis (O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1872) (Fig. 1)

Material examined. 3 females (on 10 Oct 2024) and a male (on 1 Mar 2025) collected from Kodki Village (23°14'48.64"N, 69°35'48.66"E; 162m), Kachchh, Gujarat, India by S. Parmar.

Diagnosis. The male (Fig. 1A–C) was identified by elongated, helically twisted embolus, oriented mediolaterally with a broad transverse base; membranous conductor with distal projection, encircling the embolic tip. The female (Fig. 1D–H) by hairy, transparent, disc-shaped, epigyne having central depression and small reversed triangular-shaped hood; copulatory ducts short, parallel, and medially located, attached to spermatheca distally; spermatheca spherical, continuous; fertilization ducts thin, assembling.

Habitat. An arid habitat on the ground under stones from Kachchh, Gujarat.

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Plate 31

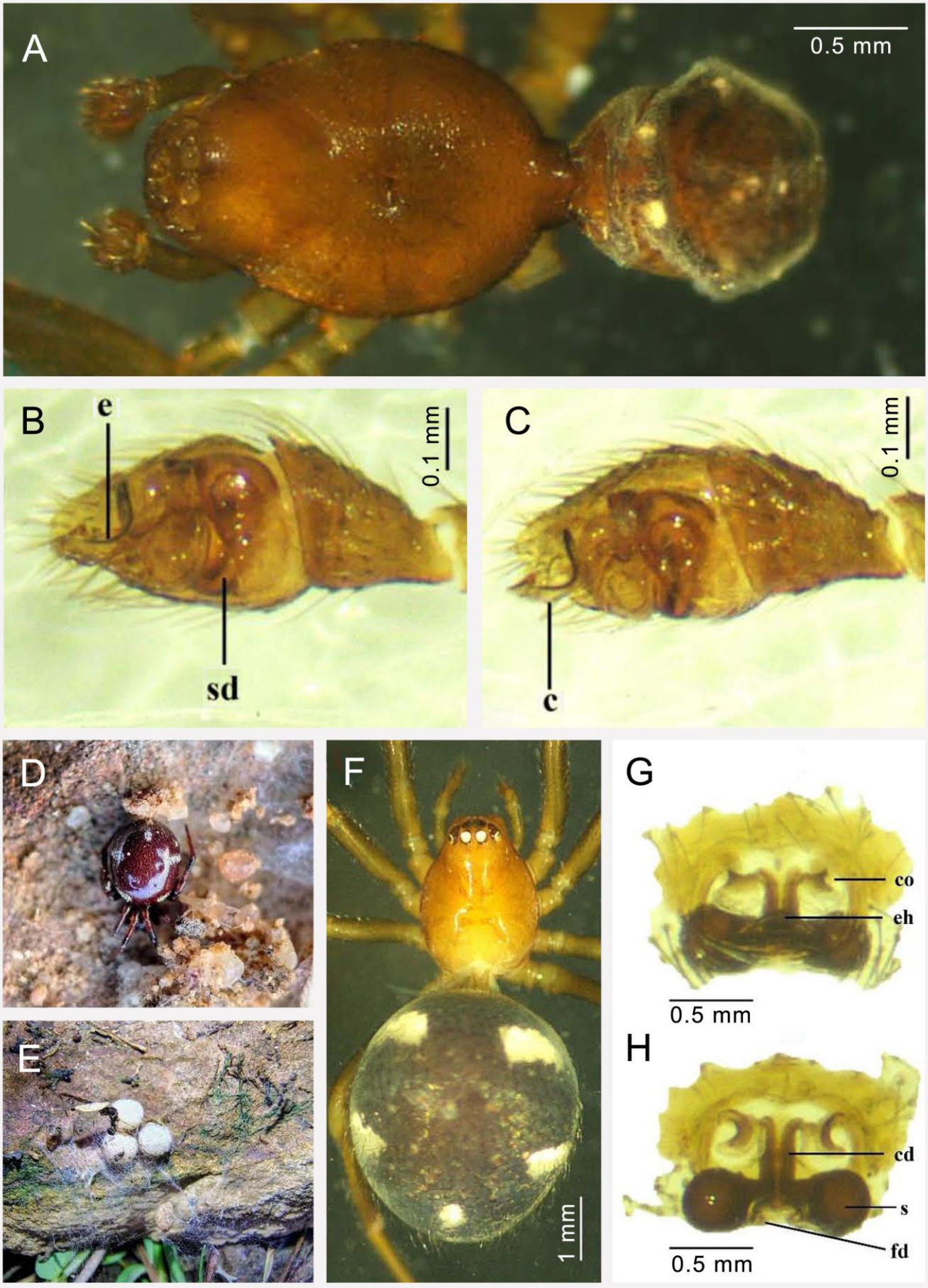

Figure 1. *Steatoda erigoniformis* male **(A)** habitus (dorsal view); **(B)** ventral and **(C)** retrolateral views of left palp (**c** = conductor, **e** = embolus, **sd** = sperm duct); female **(D)** habitus in life, **(E)** egg sacs, **(F)** habitus (dorsal view); **(G)** ventral and **(H)** dorsal views of epigyne (**cd** = copulatory duct, **co** = copulatory opening, **eh** = epigynal hood, **fd** = fertilization duct, **s** = spermatheca)