A new species of *Yllenus* Simon, 1868 from northern India (Araneae, Salticidae)

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**Summary**

A new species, *Yllenus gregoryi* sp. n. (♀), from the *hamifer* group is diagnosed, figured and described from northern India (Jammu and Kashmir's Leh district). A new faunistic record is given for *Yllenus baltistanus* Caporiacco, 1935.

**Introduction**

The genus *Yllenus* was recently revised by Logunov & Marusik (2003), who treated 65 valid species in three species groups. Since the time of that revision only a single additional species has been described from Turkey (Logunov, 2009). While sorting out old salticid collections kept in the British Natural History Museum in London (BMNH), I came across two samples of *Yllenus* collected in northern India, apparently in 1931 (reasoning from their accession numbers). One female belongs to a new species from the *hamifer* group. As females in the *hamifer* group are reliable and even better for diagnosing species than males, a new *Yllenus* species name is described herein.

Both studied specimens are kept in the Department of Entomology of the BMNH (Mrs J. Beccaloni). Abbreviations used in the text: d=dorsal, pr=prolateral, rt=retrolateral, v=ventral. For the leg spination the system and terminology adopted is that used by Ono (1988). Terminology for the copulatory organs follows Logunov & Marusik (2003). The sequence of leg segment measurements is as follows: femur+patella+tibia+metatarsus+tarus. All measurements are in mm.

### *Yllenus gregoryi* sp. n. (Figs. 1–2)

**Type material:** Holotype ♀ (BMNH) from India, "1932·6·30·1/Nurla Ladak, Leh Road/Thibet District, alt. 9,900 ft/No.2, 24.4.31/Capt. G. E. E. Gregory" [apparently, Nurla (c. 34°20’N, 76°58’E) in the Indus river valley, Leh district of the state of Jammu and Kashmir, northern India].

**Etymology:** The species is named after the collector, Captain G. Gregory.

**Diagnosis:** The new species belongs to the *hamifer* species group (sensu Logunov & Marusik, 2003) and is most similar to *Yllenus auspex* (O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1885) from Central Asia and *Y. baltistanus* Caporiacco, 1935 from northern India (Jammu and Kashmir) (see Logunov & Marusik, 2003: figs. 422–424 and 443–444). From both species, the female of *Y. gregoryi* sp. n. differs in having a deeper epigynal pocket (Fig. 1), which is the deepest amongst all the congeners of the *hamifer* species group, and in the insemination ducts making two revolutions (Fig. 2; 1–1.5 revolutions in the related species). The male of *Y. gregoryi* sp. n. is unknown.

**Distribution:** The type locality only. This new species was collected from the so-called Tibetan centre of genus diversity, from which eight species of the *hamifer* group have been described already (see Logunov & Marusik, 2003: map 5).

**Description: Female** (holotype): Measurements: Carapace 2.58 long, 2.10 wide, 1.13 high at PLE. Ocular area 1.48 long, 1.75 wide anteriorly and 1.90 wide posteriorly. Diameter of AME 0.58. Abdomen damaged, 2.00 long, 2.13 wide. Cheliceral length 0.50. Clypeal height 0.09. Length of leg segments: I 1.58+0.98+0.88+0.63+0.53; II 1.53+0.88+0.83+0.60+0.55; III 1.45+0.75+0.78+0.80+0.55; IV 2.25+1.00+1.23+1.00+0.55. Leg spination: leg I: Fm d 1ap; Tb v 1-2-2ap; Mt v 2-0-2ap; leg II: Fm d 1ap; Tb v 1-2-2ap; Mt v 2-0-2ap; leg III: Fm d 1ap; Tb pr 1-1, v 2-2ap; Mt v 2-2ap; leg III: Tb pr 1-1, rt 0-1, v 1ap; Mt pr, rt and v 1-0-2ap; leg IV: Pt pr and rt 0-1-0; Tb pr and rt 1-1-1; Mt pr, rt and v 1-0-2ap.

**Coloration:** Carapace red-brown, densely covered with...