Miq., *Pterygota alata* R. Br., *Aglaia eleagnoidea* (Juss.) Benth., *Diospyros bourdillonii* Brand., *Pterospermum diversifolium* Blume and *Mallotus tetracoccus* (Roxb.) Kurz, *Lepisanthes tetraphylla* (Vahl) Radlk., and *Bambusa bambos* (L.) Voss. The common herbs associated with the plant are *Cyathula prostrata* (L.) Blume, *Sida acuta* Burm. f., *Synedrella nodiflora* (L.) Gaertn. and *Curcuma zedoaria* (Christm.) Rosc.

Medicinal uses: Leaves may possess the same medicinal properties as that of *Gymnema sylvestre* (Retz.) R. Br. ex Schult., which is widely used in the treatment of diabetes and in cases of poisonous bites.

Remarks: This endemic species is assigned as an Endangered Red Listed Medicinal plant based on the Conservation Assessment Management Plan (C.A.M.P.) workshop conducted by Foundation for Revitalisation of Local Health Traditions, (FRLHT), Bangalore and Zoo Outreach Organisation (ZOO), Coimbatore. The "Fascicles of Flora of India" (24) Jagtap and Singh (1999) did not mention the presence of this species in Kerala and named this species as *Bidaria khandalense* (Sant.) Jagtap & Singh. Critical study of the floral characters shows that the key is representative to *Gymnema* and not to *Bidaria* (In *Gymnema* flowers, the fleshy coronal ridges are produced beyond the sinus of corolla lobes and pubescence of internode is not in two lines whereas these characters are opposite for *Bidaria*). This species is easily recognised by its ex-foliating stem bark, which is unique with golden hairs prominent below the leaves. Swarupanandhan collected the plant from Moozhiyar forest of Kollam District 314A (Ecological Number) 1981 and kept unidentified for a longtime due to the absence of flowers (vegetative condition). Sasidharan has recorded only one plant from Vazhachal (5497, 04.xi.1989 ca. 325m), which is currently under threat due to the proposed dam construction. According to him, the flowering is so sporadic that the plant flowered only once in five years and also it is very common in Nelliyampathi forest of Palakkad District. We observed only three mature individuals. Six voucher specimens of this species are deposited in the herbarium of Centre for Medicinal Plants Research, (CMPR), Arya Vaidya Sala, Kottakkal, Malappuram, Kerala.

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Acknowledgements

The authors are thankful to the authorities of Arya Vaidya Sala (AVS), Kottakkal and Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, for the financial support; Dr. P.N. Ravindran, Coordinating Director, CMPR and Dr. Indira Balachandran, Senior Scientist, CMPR, for their constant encouragements and support; Dr. N. Sasidharan, Scientist, KFRI, Peechi, for referring the specimen and giving expert opinion; to the Kerala Forest Department and Mr. Mohamed Noushad, I.F.S., Deputy Conservator of Forests, Ranni Forest Division, Pathanamthitta District for granting permissions and co-operation during the field visit; Mr. N.K. Janardhanan of AVS Herbal Garden, for assisting during the field visit.

FAUNA OF PROTECTED AREAS - 11

SPIDERS OF PENCH TIGER RESERVE, MADHYA PRADESH

Pawan Gajbe

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Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR) (21^{0}38'-21^{0}50'30"N & 79^{0}9'-79^{0}22'30"E) located in Chhindwara and Seoni districts of Madhya Pradesh covers an area of 757.907km^2 and derives its name from the Pench River flowing almost through the centre of the Reserve. The Central Regional Station of the Zoological Survey of India conducted faunal surveys in PTR from June to December 2001. In the course of this research study, some spiders were also collected. A list of the identified spiders is provided.

A review of available literature and the draft management plan of PTR reveals that nothing substantial is known about the spider fauna of PTR. Hence, the species listed in Table 1 are first records to the fauna of PTR. The identification was based on a small collection of spiders and due to this, the status of each species could not be determined. Approximately, 50% species were found to be previously undescribed and hence, identified to generic level only. Family Araneidae was found to be the dominant group with 10 species under four genera while families Hersilidae and Agelenidae were represented by only one species. The numbers of genera and species represented by each family are listed in Table 2.

Acknowledgements

The author is indebted to Dr. J.R.B. Alfred, Director, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata, and Dr. K. Chandra, Joint Director, Zoological Survey of India, Central Regional Station, Jabalpur, for providing research facilities.

Table 1. List of spiders occurring in Pench Tiger Reserve

Suborder: Labidognatha

Hersiliidae
Hersilia savignyi Lucas

Tetragnathidae
Leucauge decorata (Blackwall)
Nephila pilipes (Fabricius)
Tetragnatha sp.

Araneidae
Argiope aemula (Walckenaer)
Argiope trifasciata (Forskal)
Argiope pulchella Thorell
Eriovixia excelsa (Simon)
Larinia sp.
Neoscona bengalensis Tikader & Bal
Neoscona biswasi Bhandari & Gajbe
Neoscona mukerjei Tikader
Neoscona platnicki Gajbe & Gajbe
Neoscona sp.

Lycosidae
Lycosa wroughtoni Pocock
Pardosa sp.
Trochosa sp.

Pisauridae
Dolomedes sp.
Pisaura sp.

Oxyopidae
Oxyopes pankaji Gajbe & Gajbe
Oxyopes shweta Tikader
Oxyopes sp.
Peucetia sp.

Agelenidae
Tegenaria sp.

Gnaphosidae
Callilepis sp.
Gnaphosa sp.

Thomisidae
Ozyptila jabalpurensis Bhandari & Gajbe
Thomisus sp. 1
Thomisus sp. 2
Tmarus sp.

Manuscript 966; Received 2 December 2002; Finally accepted 28 June 2004;