

Order: Geophilomorpha**Sp.1.**

Material Examined: Madhya Pradesh: Betul (PBR), Kantawadi Village, Shahapur, near Machna River, 20.ii.2002, 2 exs., Coll. Dr. Y.N. Gupta; Hoshangabad (PBR), Nagduwari River, Mandai, 25.ii.2003, 1 ex., Coll. M.L. Koshta.

Sp.2.

Material Examined: Hoshangabad (PBR), Kesla, 11.ii.2003, 1 ex., Coll. Dr. Y.N. Gupta; Near Tawa Dam, Tawanagar, 13.ii.2004, 2 ex., Coll. Dr. Y.N. Gupta; Apsara Vihar, Panchmarhi, 12.ii.2003, 1 ex., Coll. M.L. Koshta; Takapar, Mandai, 26.ii.2003, 1 ex., Coll. M.L. Koshta.

Class: Diplopoda**Sp.1.**

Material Examined: Chhatisgarh: Bilaspur, Sambhar Dasan Road, 8.vi.2004, 2 ex; Bastar, Rowghat Forest, 15.vii.2005, 1 ex.

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AN UNUSUAL CLUTCH SIZE IN SARUS CRANE (*GRUS ANTIGONE ANTIGONE*) AT KODAIYA WETLAND, UTTAR PRADESH

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The Indian Sarus Crane (*Grus antigone antigone*) is the only resident species of Gruidae, south of the Himalayas. Apart from the Black-necked Crane (*Grus nigricolis*), it is the only species of crane breeding within the Indian subcontinent (Ali & Ripley, 1980). One-third of the total Indian population of Sarus Cranes occur in the two districts of Etawah and Mainpuri in Uttar Pradesh (Sundar *et al.*, 1999; Chauhan & Kumar, 2000). The Wildlife Institute of India had established a field station in Etawah in 1999 to conduct a research project entitled "Impact of land use changes on habitat and ecology of Sarus Crane (*Grus antigone*) in India". We worked as volunteers for this project during which we made many observations. The normal clutch size in Sarus Crane is two with one egg clutch being infrequent as observed in Gujarat (Mukherjee *et al.*, 2000) and three egg clutches were rare.

On 23 August 2001, we observed three nests with two eggs and two nests with one egg at Saifai and Kodaiya of district Etawah and Mainpuri. At Kodaiya, we found a nest situated in the middle of a wetland. The nest was built of *Typha* reeds and *Eichornia* and was surrounded by tall *Typha* reeds. It was difficult to verify the clutch size, but we observed the incubating female having difficulties with the nest. During her absence we observed that the nest had four eggs. Later, we learnt from the people of Rahin village in Etawah district that they had noticed a nest with three eggs in a neighbouring wetland. This is to report the first record of a four-egg clutch of Sarus Crane in the wild.

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