Review Article

Faunal Diversity of Linyphiidae (Araneomorphae: Araneae: Arachnida) in India

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ABSTRACT

The present article deals with the faunal diversity of the spiders belonging to the family Linyphiidae. In India, the Linyphiidae is represented by 94 species in 39 genera in 19 states and 3 union territories and 48 species are endemic. In India, *Oedothorax* Bertkau, 1883 is the largest genus consisting 17 species. Maximum 32 species of these spiders were recorded in Jammu & Kashmir followed by 18 species each in Kerala, Uttarakhand and West Bengal. In northeast part of India, 12 linyphiid species are recorded in Meghalaya while no species is reported yet from Arunchal Pradesh, Nagaland and Tripura. Interestingly, larger states in central India like Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, and Telangana are very poorly represented by these spiders and need extensive survey for these spiders. None of the linyphiid spiders of India are recorded as endangered or vulnerable species in IUCN Red List of threatened Taxa. Therefore, conservation efforts are immediately needed for their conservation practices.

Key words: Faunal distribution, India, Sheet Weaver, Money spider, Linyphiidae

