

ABSTARCT:

The present study was designed to explore the fauna of spider from Lahore, a city of Pakistan located in Punjab Province. The objective of study was to know the taxonomic data of spiders belonging to families Pholcidae, Aranidae and Salticidae, so that it can be used in integrated pest management programme in future. Present study was conducted from April 2004 to September 2004. Two methods, visual observation and pitfall traps were used to collect the specimens. The collected specimens were preserved in a mixture of 95% alcohol and glycerin. The specimens were identified to species level by using taxonomic literature.

During the present study, twelve hundred and fifty specimens of family Pholcidae, Aranidae and Salticidae were collected. These were represented by seven genera and ten species.

The specimen of family Aranidae was represented by four genera *Nephila*, *Cyrtophora Simon*, *Neoscona Simon* and *Araneus clerck*. Specimen of genus *Nephila* belongs to one species viz., *Nephila malabarensis*. Specimens of genus *Cyrtophora Simon* belongs to one species viz., *Cyrtophora citricola*. Specimen of genus *Neoscona Simon* belongs to one species viz., *Neoscona elliptica*. While specimen of genus *Araneus Clerck* belongs to three species viz., *Araneus cucurbiticus*, *Araneus lymph* and *Araneus biturberculatus*.

The specimen of family Salticidae belongs to three genera *Phidippus koch*, *Plexippus koch* and *Marpissa koch*. The specimens of genus *Phidippus koch* belongs to two species viz., *Phidippus Indicus* Tikader and *Phidippus lunatus*. The specimen of genus *Plexippus koch* belongs to one species *Plexippus paykullii* (AUD). The specimen of genus *Marpissa koch* belongs to one species *Marpissa promptus*.

The species were described in detail. Drawings and measurement of different body parts were carried out by using ocular grid and ocular micrometer. The type specimens deposited in the department of Zoology, Government College University, Lahore.