



Jumping Spider

[Source: TH](#)

Spartaeus karigiri, a newly discovered **jumping spider species** from Karnataka, marks the first recorded presence of the ***Spartaeus* and *Sonoita* genera** (part of the **Spartaeinae subfamily of Salticidae family**) in India, previously known only from **Southeast Asia and Africa**.

- The species is named after **Karigiri, or Elephant Hill of Karnataka**.
- ***Sonoita cf. lightfooti***, previously thought to be **confined to Africa**, was discovered in **Karnataka**, suggesting a **possible range extension or introduction**.

Jumping Spiders (*Spartaeus karigiri*)

- **Distribution:** Found globally across America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia with **abundance in tropical regions**.
- **Biodiversity:** **Salticidae** is the largest **spider family** with **5,000+ species** under **Order Araneae and Class Arachnida**.
- **Physical Traits:** **Small, fuzzy spiders (<0.5 inch)** with **8 eyes, two large front-facing eyes** provide **high-resolution vision for hunting, navigation, and courtship**.
 - Capable of **running, climbing, and jumping**, uses a **silk dragline for safe landing**.
- **Hunting Behavior:** **Active carnivores** that **prey on small insects** using **stalking, mimicry (e.g., ant-like appearance)**, and **camouflage**, some species also **consume pollen and nectar opportunistically**.
- **Jumping Mechanism:** Jump over **50 times body length** via **hydraulic leg pressure**, not muscles.
- **Reproduction:** Females guard **silk-encased egg sacs**, spiderlings molt into adults.
- **Notable Species:** *Euophrys omnisuperstes* (Himalayan jumping spider), found at **22,000 ft on Mount Everest**, highest known spider habitat.

Identifying common spider families



Orb-weaving spiders

Docile, often very long-legged spiders with large bulbous abdomens, known for their large, beautiful, spiral webs.



Wolf spiders

Hairy, long-legged brown or grey spiders that hunt at night rather than using a web, and usually run from humans.



Jumping spiders

Small spiders with two large primary eyes and compact legs and bodies that hunt during the day by pouncing on prey.



Tarantulas

Large, slow, hairy spiders with a leg span that can be up to 11 inches, that chase their prey and use webs to attract mates.



Crab spiders

Wide-bodied spiders with two sets of longer legs in front for catching prey, that walk sideways on their back legs like crabs.



Trapdoor spiders

Shiny spiders with short, thick legs that build burrows with trapdoors made of silk and dirt to ambush prey.

SOURCE: REPORTING BY B. MASON

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Read More: [New Genus of Jumping Spiders](#)

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