

A TWO-EYED SPIDER FROM UTAH.

BY RALPH V. CHAMBERLIN,
University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah.

The highly interesting family Caponiidæ includes two African species, representing the genera Caponia and Diploglyna, and about a score of American species representing five genera. The American species hitherto known occur in the West Indies, northern South America and Central America, and in the desert region about the Gulf of California from where the writer has described species of three genera,—Orthonops, Tarsonops and Nopsides.¹ The genus Orthonops was established for the single species *O. oertus* Chamberlin the type of which was taken on San Luis Island, Gulf of California; but in April, 1928, Mr. Willis J. Gertsch, as a member of a field party from the University of Utah, secured a female of a second species of this genus in the San Rafael Desert region of Emery Co., Utah. This species, which is described below, is the only member of the family to have been found north of Mexico. Like all other American members of the family, excepting *Nopsides ceralbona* Chamberlin, this form has but two eyes, a feature not found in spiders of any other family. Along with other distinguishing peculiarities, the members of this family have all four spiracles leading into tracheal tubes, no book-lungs being present.

Orthonops gertschi, new species.

Female.—Carapace uniform light orange color, sparsely clothed with black hairs of moderate length which are all weakly curved. The sternum similar in color or slightly paler and bearing similar but more numerous hairs. Chelicerae, labium and endites colored and clothed like sternum. Palpi yellow, the hairs, particularly on the tarsus more numerous, appressed. Legs clear yellow, clothed with dark hairs like those of palpi and carapace. Abdomen gray throughout, somewhat darker above,

¹The Spider Fauna of the Shores and Islands of the Gulf of California, Proc. Cal. Acad. Sci., XII (4), No. 28, p. 597 et seq., 1924.

subdensely clothed with dark, appressed hairs similar to those of other parts of the body but mostly shorter and finer. The carapace depressed, the head region not set off by distinct furrows and no stria thoracica evident, subovate in outline; pars cephalica narrowed forward, with anterior corners widely rounded. Eyes on a somewhat darkened area; removed from anterior border of head, as viewed from above, by only slightly more than the length of the eye-row, though without measurement the distance appears greater; eyes circular, separated by less than their diameter, the light, pupillary areas separated in dorsal view by about their diameter. Labium rather broad, apically rounded. Endites rather long, bent over the labium and nearly meeting in the middle line in front of it. Chelicerae with claws slender; upper margin of furrow with a low membrane over most of the length, the lower margin with a shorter but higher, distally rounded, membranous appendage. Sternum weakly convex, in outline subelliptic but more strongly narrowed caudad than cephalad, the caudal end acute. Abdomen narrowly elliptic or subfusiform, pointed at both ends. First and second legs decidedly more robust than the third and fourth, but the fourth longer than the first. All coxae moderately long, the first and fourth longer than second and third. Paired claws of legs with six long teeth in single series. Unpaired claw on all legs well developed, smooth and untoothed. The appendage at base of tarsi I and II elongate, narrowly oblong in outline but distally pointed and somewhat curved. In leg I the tarsus is clavately thickened distad; its distal division, exclusive of claws, about half as long as the proximal division.

Total length, 4.75 mm. Length of cephalothorax, 1.9 mm.; width, 1.37 mm. Length of leg I (inclusive of coxa), 5.74 mm.; tib. + pat., 1.9 mm. Length of leg IV, 6.86 mm.; tib. + pat. IV, 2.1 mm.

Locality.—Utah: Emery Co., San Rafael Desert at Straight Wash., April, 1928. Holotype, a female, in author's collection.



Chamberlin, Ralph V. 1928. "A Two-Eyed Spider From Utah." *Psyche* 35, 235–236. <https://doi.org/10.1155/1928/67817>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/206962>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1155/1928/67817>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/181853>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.