

On a new synonym of *Hasarius adansoni* (Audouin, 1826) (Araneae, Salticidae) from India

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Rao, Bodkhe & Kanaujia (2025) described a new species of the genus *Habrocestum* Simon from Maharashtra State of India. The species, *Habrocestum chikhaldarensis* Rao, Bodkhe & Kanaujia, 2025 was described based on a single female holotype collected from Chikhaldara, Amravati District and was named after the type locality. Detailed analysis of the illustrations of the species reveal that the species does not belong to the genus *Habrocestum* but rather to *Hasarius* Simon. The present note aims to clarify the identity of the species.

Taxonomy

Genus *Hasarius* Simon, 1902

Hasarius adansoni (Audouin, 1826)

Attus adansonii Audouin, 1826: 404, pl. 7, f. 8 (Dmf).

Hasarius adansoni Prószyński, 1984: 58, 107, 170, 172 (mf).

Hasarius adansoni Pupin & Brescovit, 2023: 8, f. 19–24 (mf).

Habrocestum chikhaldarensis Rao, Bodkhe & Kanaujia, 2025: 423, f. 1–4 (D♀); holotype ♀ in J. D. Patil Sangludkar Mahavidyalaya, Daryapur; **syn. nov.**

For a complete list of taxonomic references see World Spider Catalog (2025).

Type material. *Habrocestum chikhaldarensis* Rao, Bodkhe & Kanaujia, 2025: Holotype ♀ (SRL, JDPSMD) from India, Maharashtra, Amravati District, Chikhaldara, coll. Atul K. Bodkhe, March 2022; not examined, images useful for comparison.

Comments. The female holotype was illustrated showing the habitus and the epigyne in both ventral and dorsal views (Rao et al. 2025). Although the illustrations are not of high quality, they provide enough details to recognize it taxonomically. The species is misidentified and misclassified. The illustrations clearly show that the species is identical to *Hasarius adansoni* (Audouin 1826) in both the general color pattern and the genital characters: the epigyne simple with sclerotized circular copulatory openings and central m-shaped epigynal pocket, short copulatory ducts and pear-shaped spermathecae and the anteriorly placed fertilization ducts (cf. figs 1–4 in Rao et al., 2025 with figs 20, 23, 24 in Pupin & Brescovit 2023 and illustration in Prószyński 1984 on page 58). These observations leave no doubt that *Habrocestum chikhaldarensis* is indeed a junior synonym of *H. adansoni*.

References

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