

Catalogue of the Australian peacock spiders (Araneae: Salticidae: Euophryini: *Maratus*), version 4

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Summary. All 91 known *Maratus* species are listed with an updated range map for each. The genera *Hypoblemum* and *Saratus* are given a new status as junior synonyms of *Maratus*, moving three more species into that genus.

Keywords. combination restored, *Hypoblemum*, *Lycidas*, new combination, new synonym, *Saratus*

In response to recent publication of a DNA-based phylogenetic study (Girard et al. 2021) of *Hypoblemum*, *Maratus* and *Saratus*, we now return two species from *Hypoblemum*, and we move one species from *Saratus*, to *Maratus*. This change should restore the monophyly of *Maratus*, as it maintains the stability of the names presently used to identify peacock spiders to the greatest extent consistent with that monophyly:

Genus *Maratus* Karsch 1878

new junior synonyms of *Maratus*:

Hypoblemum Peckham & Peckham 1886 [type species *Acmaea villosa* Keyserling 1883, synonym of *Hypoblemum griseum* (Keyserling 1882)]

Saratus Otto & Hill 2017 [type species *Saratus hesperus* Otto & Hill 2017]

new or restored combinations:

Maratus griseum (Keyserling 1882), **combination restored**

Maratus hesperus (Otto & Hill 2017), **new combination**

Maratus scutulatus (L. Koch 1881), **combination restored**

This DNA-based phylogenetic study supported most of the groups used in previous versions of this catalogue (Otto & Hill 2019b), but also suggested several changes that are reflected in this new version (Figure 1). Notably the *spicatus* group is now included in the *chrysomelas* group, *M. sceletus* has been moved from the *calcitrans* group to the *anomalus* group, and *M. australis*, *M. pardus* and *M. plumosus* have been removed from their respective groups. The phylogeny of a large southwestern clade (clade 41 in Figure 1) remains to be resolved, but we have largely retained our earlier groups here as each represents species with shared characters, particularly with respect to courtship behaviour.

The genus *Maratus* includes a diverse variety of at least 91 described species endemic to Australia, including 11 recently described (Otto & Hill 2019c, 2020, Schubert 2020b, Waldock et al. 2020). Not included in this catalogue are 10 species that have previously been assigned to *Lycidas* Karsch 1878 and whose affinity is uncertain: *anomaliformis*, *bitaeniatus*, *chlorophthalmus*, *fervus*, *heteropogon*, *michaelseni*, *obscurior*, *piliger*, *pilosus*, and *vittatus*.

This catalogue should be viewed as a *work in progress*. Except for the *scutulatus* group, only adult males are illustrated. Each range map shows areas that have been identified in prior publications (white circles), or by unpublished observations and posted photographs that we consider reliable (yellow circles). Each marked area may include multiple localities of record.

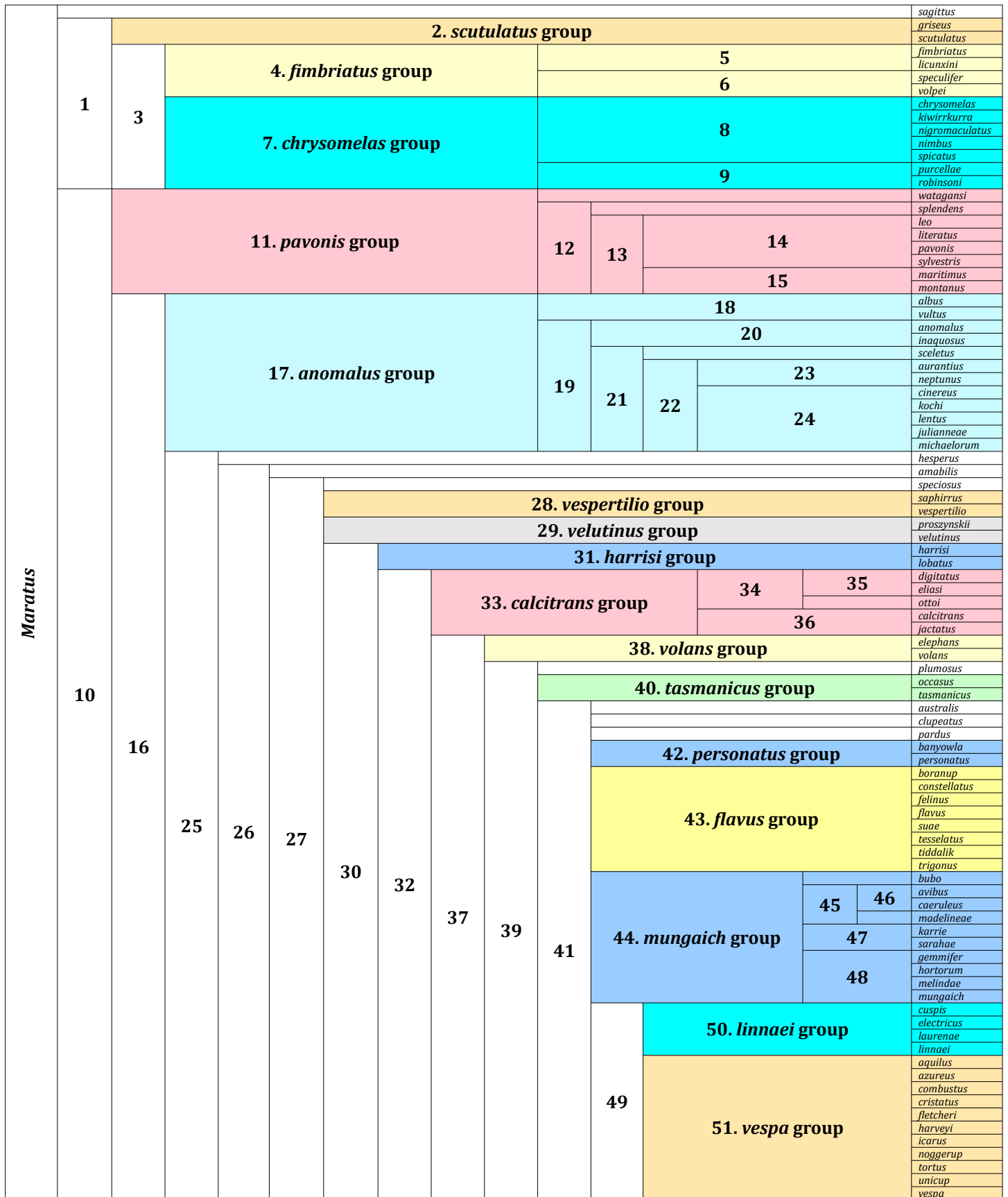


Figure 1. Hypothetical phylogeny of *Maratus* species, from left to right. Where a clade has more than two branches, the phylogeny is not apparent to us. For example, we do not know where to place *M. sagittus* relative to the two major divisions of *Maratus* (1 and 10), and although we think that *M. pardus* falls within the large southwestern clade (41), we cannot yet place this in a specific group.

The *anomalus* group

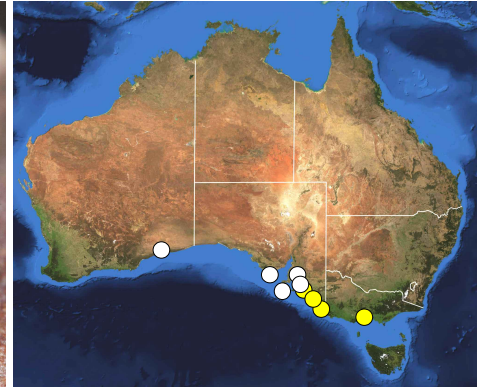
This group includes relatives of *M. anomalus* (type species for *Lycidas* Karsch 1878) that can be distinguished by the presence of a blunt, bifurcated apex of the outer ring of the embolus above a shorter, sharply pointed inner apex of the male pedipalp. The female epigynum has heavily sclerotized (darker) ducts at the lateral and medial posterior margin of each fossa. Most have a pair of black spots toward the rear of the fan, and courtship display tends to be simple for most species. Recently a series of *grassland peacock spiders* from eastern Australia have been added (Baehr & Whyte 2016, Otto & Hill 2017a), and we now include *M. sceletus* with this group after Girard et al. (2021).

Maratus albus

Otto & Hill 2016

Maratus albus Otto & Hill 2016b; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

Closely related to *M. vultus* (Girard et al. 2021), *M. albus* has only been found close to the coast and may be restricted to coastal habitats. Males extend their long legs III but do not elevate their fan during courtship display.

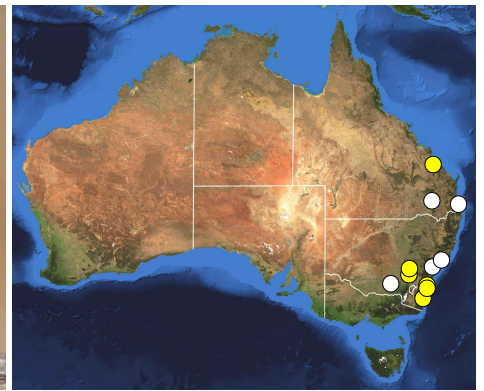
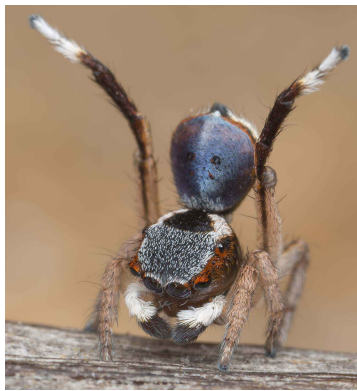


Maratus anomalus

(Karsch 1878)

Lycidas anomalus Karsch 1878; Prószyński 1984; Żabka 1987, 1991; Hill 2010; *Maratus*-like salticid Hill 2009 (Figures 28-29); *Maratus anomalus* : Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e, 2016b, 2017; Baehr & Whyte 2016; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

This species, the type for *Lycidas* Karsch 1878, has been redescribed from the type specimen twice (Żabka 1987; Otto & Hill 2012c). Found on beaches and other coastal habitats, as well as inland.

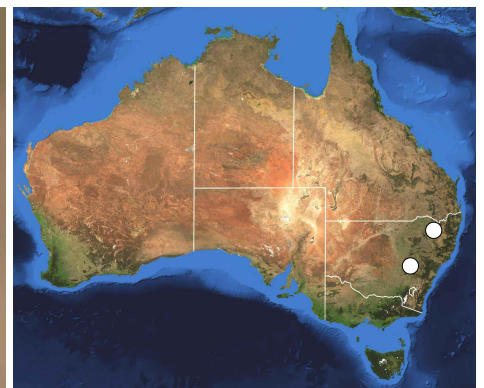


Maratus aurantius

Otto & Hill 2017

Maratus aurantius Otto & Hill 2017a; *Maratus* sp. Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

This is one of the grassland peacock spiders, known only from one locality near Orange, New South Wales. A close relative of *M. neptunus* (Girard et al. 2021).

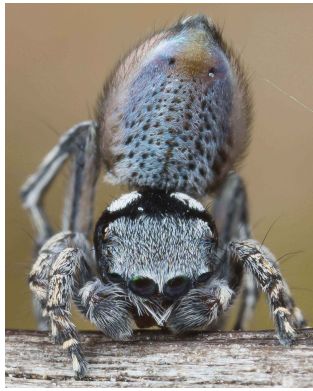


Maratus cinereus

Otto & Hill 2017

Maratus cinereus Otto & Hill 2017a; Girard et al. 2021

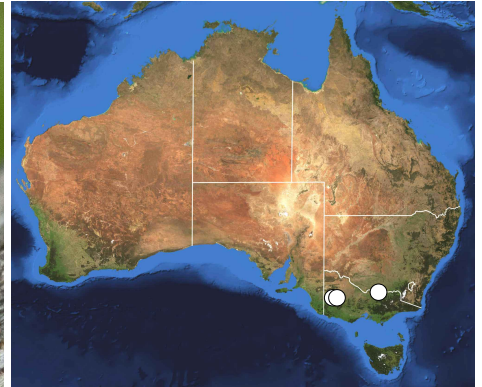
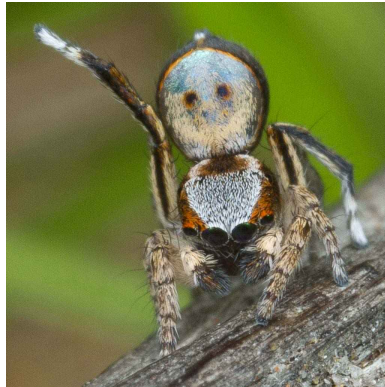
This grassland species from the vicinity of Stanthorpe, Queensland is closely related to *M. lentus* which also pulls one pedipalp to the side to expose the underlying chelicera when displaying to a female. Both of these species have distinctive cuffs of long setae around each proximal tarsus I and II.

***Maratus inaquosus***

Schubert 2020

Maratus cf. *anomalus* Otto & Hill 2016b; *Maratus inaquosus* Schubert 2020b

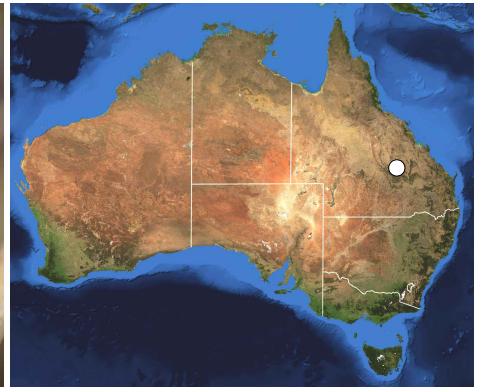
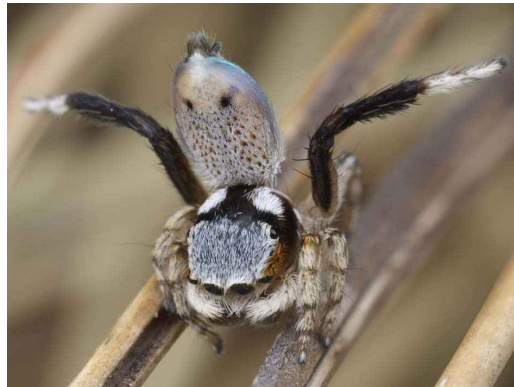
This species is closely related to both *M. anomalus* and *M. vultus*.

***Maratus julianneae***

Baehr & Whyte 2016

Maratus julianneae Baehr & Whyte 2016; Whyte & Anderson 2017

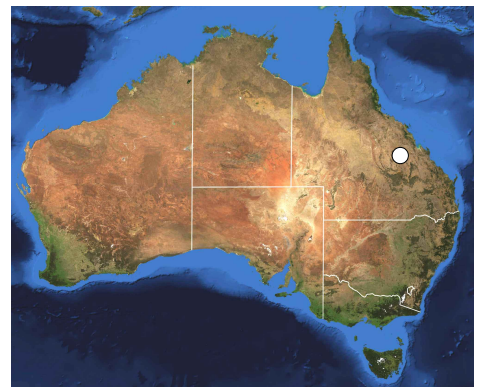
This grassland species has been found only at Carnarvon Station, Queensland. The fan of the male resembles that of *M. cinereus* but legs III resemble those of *M. anomalus* and are displayed in a similar manner.

***Maratus kochi***

(Žabka 1987)

Lycidas kochi Žabka 1987, 1991; Hill 2010; *Maratus kochi* : Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e

The holotype female from "Peak Downs" described by Žabka resembles the female of *M. cinereus* or *M. lentus* and we consider this to be a member of the grassland group. The male is not known.

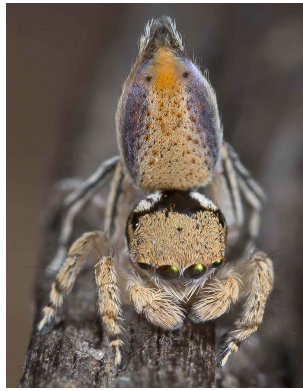


Maratus lentus

Otto & Hill 2017

Maratus lentus Otto & Hill 2017a

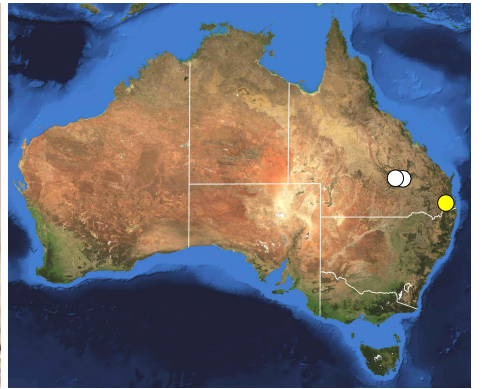
M. lentus males resemble the closely related *M. cinereus*, but have a different colour and a broad grey lateral margin on each side of the dorsal opisthosoma. They have only been found at one locality, on grasses near Copeton, New South Wales.

***Maratus michaelorum***

Baehr & Whyte 2016

Maratus michaelorum Baehr & Whyte 2016;
Girard et al. 2021

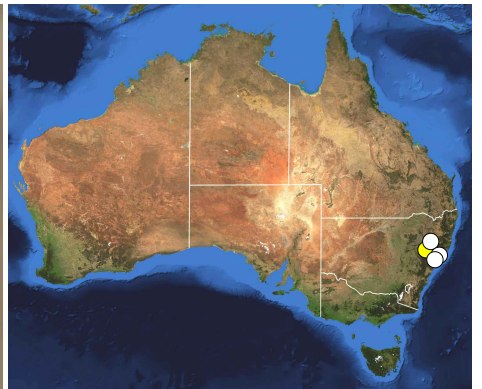
This species was originally described from Moolayember Creek National Park and nearby Carnarvon Gorge National Park in Queensland. More recently it was found near Brisbane. The female is unknown. The male resembles a small (3-4 mm long) *M. pavonis*, but it is not a close relative (Girard et al. 2021). Photograph © Madeline Girard, used with permission.

***Maratus neptunus***

Otto & Hill 2017

Maratus neptunus Otto & Hill 2017a;
Maratus sp. Whyte & Anderson 2017;
Girard et al. 2021

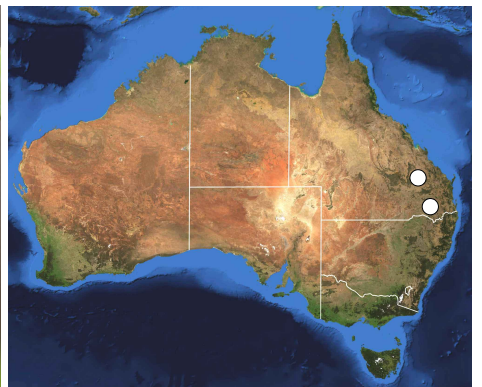
The fan of the male of this grassland species bears three prominent black stripes on a background of iridescent blue or purple scales, the image of Neptune's trident rising above the sea. *M. neptunus* has been found near Tamworth and the lower Hunter Valley in New South Wales.

***Maratus sceletus***

Otto & Hill 2015

Maratus sceletus Otto & Hill 2015a;
Whyte & Anderson 2017;
Girard et al. 2021

Popularly known as *Skeletorus*, males raise their fan and inflated spinnerets as they circle around stems to safely approach a female.

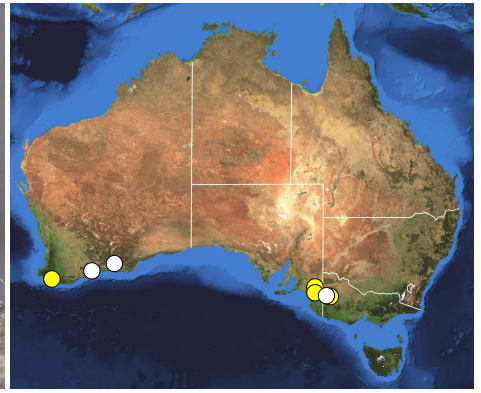


Maratus vultus

Otto & Hill 2016

Maratus vultus Otto & Hill 2016b; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Schubert 2020a; Girard et al. 2021

The fan of the male of *M. vultus* displays a distinctive face-like figure on a background of iridescent blue-green and light brown scales. This is the western-most species within the *anomalus* group. The female is not known.

**The *calcitrans* group**

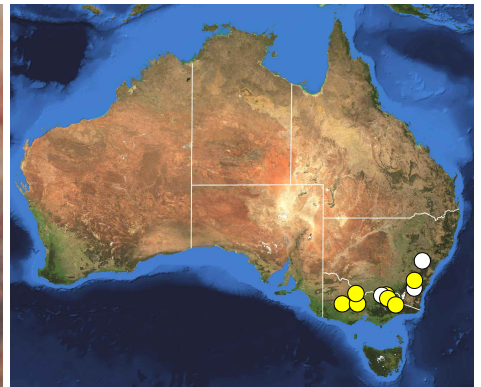
This group is widely distributed in eastern Australia with many colourful species, yet it was only recently discovered. Davies and Žabka (1989) figured a male *M. otto* from the vicinity of Brisbane, but did not give it a name. Males inflate their spinnerets as they display to females. All members of the group have an asymmetric display in which they alternately extend or kick one leg III to one side, then the other leg III to the other side.

Maratus calcitrans

Otto & Hill 2012

Maratus calcitrans Otto & Hill 2012d; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

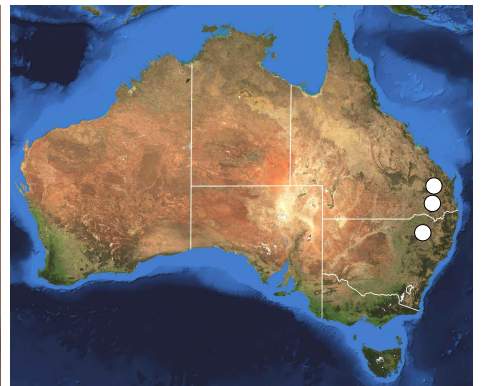
Dorsally each pedipalp of the male is covered with white setae, and behind each pedipalp, on either side, a stripe of white setae extends to the rear of the eye region. The species name *calcitrans* is a reference to the kicking display of the male.

***Maratus digitatus***

Otto & Hill 2012

Maratus digitatus Otto & Hill 2012d; Baehr & Whyte 2016; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

The male of this species has prominent, dull-green lateral flaps that can be extended but they are not part of the usual courtship display. The inflatable spinnerets are fringed with long white setae.

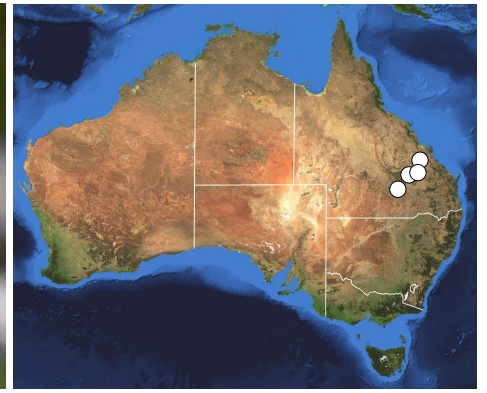


Maratus eliasi

Baehr & Whyte 2016

Maratus eliasi Baehr & Whyte 2016;
Girard et al. 2021

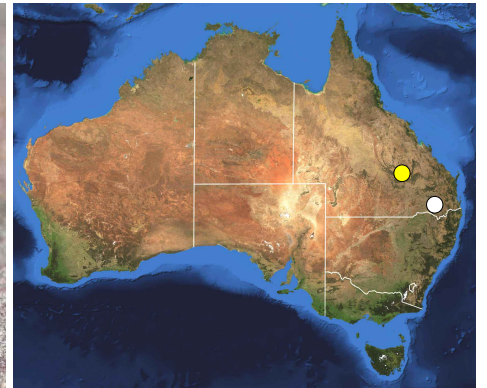
Males have a lateral flap on either side of the fan and prominent fringes of long, off-white setae on the inflatable spinnerets. Expansion of these flaps has not yet been observed. *M. eliasi* appears to be a close relative of *M. otto* and *M. digitatus*.

***Maratus jactatus***

Otto & Hill 2015

Maratus jactatus Otto & Hill 2015a; Whyte &
Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

Popularly known as *Sparklemuffin*, the male of this brightly coloured species has a very fast kicking display, and a relatively wide fan with three prominent, red transverse stripes. Closely related to *M. calcitrans* (Girard et al. 2021).

***Maratus otto***

Baehr & Whyte 2016

Maratus sp. Davies & Žabka 1989; *Maratus otto* Baehr & Whyte 2016; Whyte &
Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

Known only from the Brisbane area, the male *M. otto* has an octopus-like figure on the fan and the common name *Octopus Peacock Spider*.

**The *chrysomelas* group**

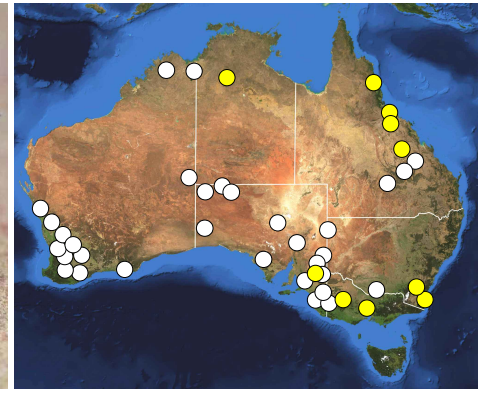
This group includes the widely-distributed *M. chrysomelas* and the closely related *M. nigromaculatus* that is known only from the southern coast of Queensland. Unlike most other *Maratus*, *M. chrysomelas* can be found in the arid interior and the tropical north. In some parts of eastern Queensland *M. nigromaculatus* genes associated with the series of paired black spots of the fan may appear in some Queensland populations of the closely related *M. chrysomelas* as a result of introgression, or the two might represent a single biological species. Based on the recent DNA study by Girard et al. (2021), we now place four smaller species (2.5-4 mm in body length), previously comprising the *spicatus* group, here. Three of these smaller species (*M. purcellae*, *M. robinsoni*, *M. spicatus*) do not extend legs III during their courtship display.

Maratus chrysomelas

(Simon 1909)

Habrocestum chrysomelas Simon 1909; *Lycidas chrysomelas* : Žabka 1987, 1991; Waldock 2002; Hill 2010; *Maratus chrysomelas* : Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e, 2016a; Hsiung et al. 2014, 2017b; Baehr & Whyte 2016; Whyte & Anderson 2017; McCoy et al. 2019; Girard et al. 2021

This species can be identified by the presence of two elongated black spots at the front of the fan. So far this is the only *Maratus* that has been found in Australia's Northern Territory.

***Maratus kiwirrkurra***

Baehr & Whyte 2016

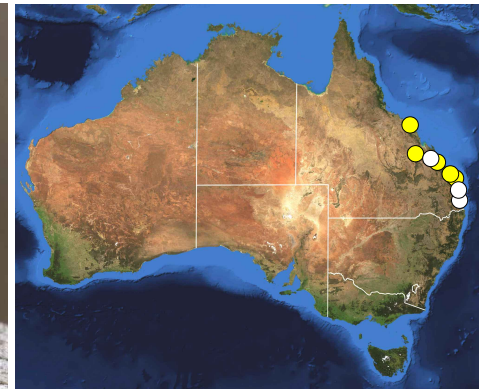
Maratus kiwirrkurra Baehr & Whyte 2016

This small species is known only from a single male collected at Lake Mackay in the Kiwirrkurra indigenous protected area of the Gibson Desert, near the eastern boundary of Western Australia. A photograph of a dead individual that has lost most of its scale cover is included in the original description, but no photograph of a live animal has been published.

***Maratus nigromaculatus***

(Keyserling 1883)

Ergane nigromaculata Keyserling 1883; *Thorellia nigromaculata* : Rainbow 1911; *Spilargis nigromaculata* : Simon 1903; *Lycidas nigromaculatus* : Žabka 1987, 1991; Hill 2010; *Maratus nigromaculatus* : Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e, 2016a; Whyte & Anderson 2017; McCoy et al. 2019; Girard et al. 2021



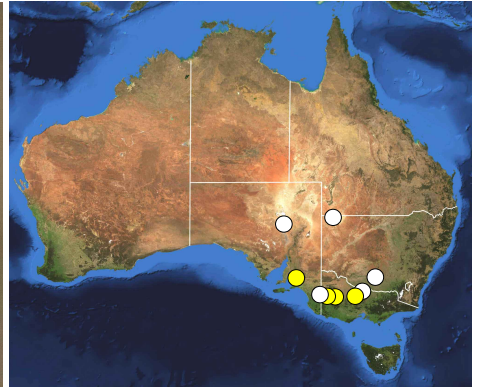
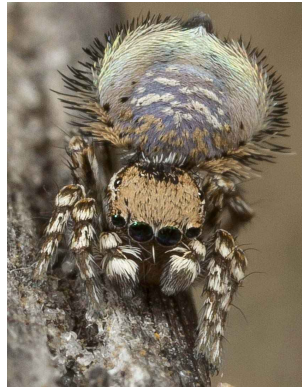
The male has large, paired black spots and a wide fringe of long iridescent blue to white setae.

Maratus nimbus

Otto & Hill 2017

Maratus nimbus Otto & Hill 2017c; *Maratus* sp. Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

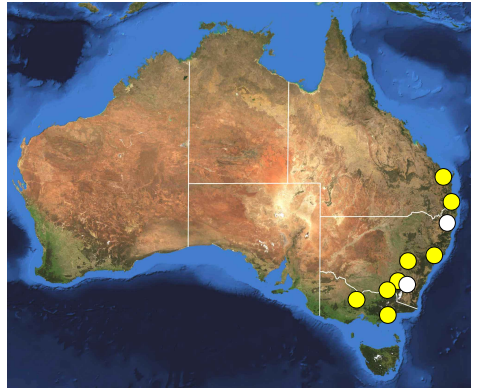
The fan of *M. nimbus* males has a distinctive pattern of scales and setae on the fan, mostly in subdued hues. This resembles a pastel painting of the sky at dawn with white cirrus clouds against a sky of iridescent blue scales, hence the species name *nimbus*. The elliptical fan has no flaps and when it is fully expanded as shown here it is surrounded by an array of large bristle-like setae. These have been found under *Iris* in a well-watered garden at Bordertown, but also in the dry interior.

***Maratus purcellae***

Otto & Hill 2013

Maratus purcellae Otto & Hill 2013a; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

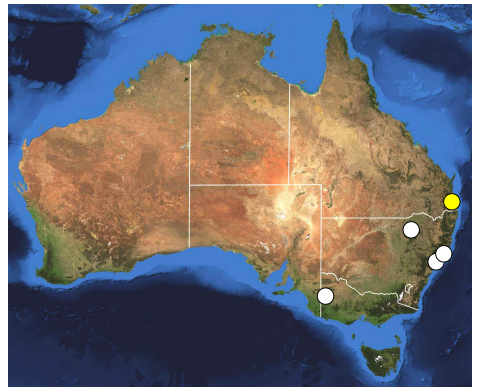
M. purcellae was first discovered in a Canberra garden. The dorsum of each pedipalp of the male is covered by a bright white line of scales, and the legs of the male are off-white with a cover of white setae.

***Maratus robinsoni***

Otto & Hill 2012

Maratus robinsoni Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e; Hsiung et al. 2014, 2017b; Whyte & Anderson 2017; McCoy et al. 2019; Schubert 2020a; Girard et al. 2021

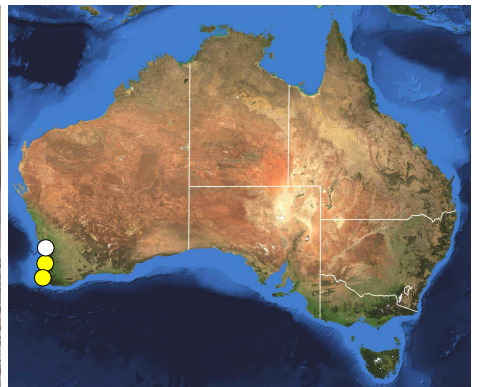
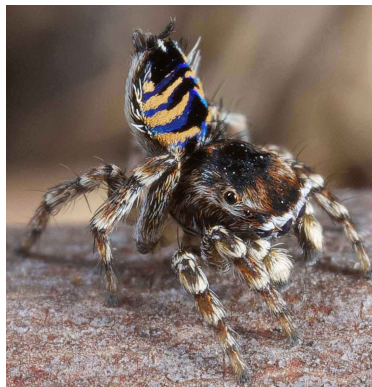
These small spiders can quickly bury themselves under sand grains. The iridescent scales of their fan are remarkable as they can produce all of the colours of the rainbow, depending on the relative direction of incident and reflected light.

***Maratus spicatus***

Otto & Hill 2012

Maratus spicatus Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e; Hsiung et al. 2014; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

Males of this small species have large spike-like setae fringing a fan marked with bright yellow chevrons on a blue background. These are frequently seen in and around Perth.



The *fimbriatus* group

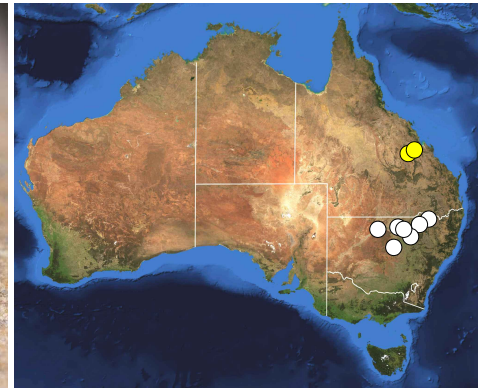
This small group now includes four species, all with an embolus that is shaped like a wheel rim. *M. fimbriatus* has been found at a number of locations in the grazed interior of New South Wales. The closely related *M. licunxini* was collected at Carnarvon Station Homestead in the interior of Queensland. These spiders are quite different from any other known *Maratus*, and their display includes the use of extended legs I. In the recently discovered *M. volpei* the male display includes both legs I and II. Male *M. fimbriatus* and *M. licunxini* have a spectacular fringe surrounding the fan, and a pair of bright white stripes interrupting its dark, glossy dorsal surface. The fan of the western *M. speculifer* is also dark and glossy, but smaller.

Maratus fimbriatus

Otto & Hill 2016

Maratus fimbriatus Otto & Hill 2016a; Baehr & Whyte 2016; Whyte & Anderson 2017

Males extend and separate legs I to reveal the smooth anterior surfaces of the femora. Unlike most *Maratus*, they do not use legs III as part of this display. Found in grazed areas of the dry interior of north-central New South Wales and Queensland, with some variation between the two areas.

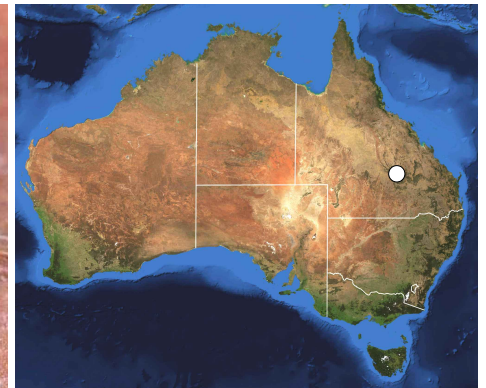


Maratus licunxini

Baehr & Whyte 2016

Maratus licunxini Baehr & Whyte 2016

This species, named after Li Cunxin, artistic director of the Queensland Ballet, is very similar to *M. fimbriatus* with more convergence of the medial stripes toward the anterior of the fan. Photograph © Joseph Schubert, used with permission.

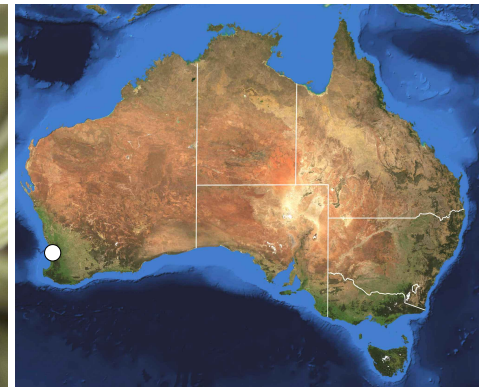


Maratus speculifer

(Simon 1909)

Habrocestum speculiferum Simon 1909; *Lycidas speculifer* : Žabka 1987, 1991; Hill 2010; *Maratus speculiferus* : Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

Little-known, males display with both legs I and their longer legs III. Each femur I is light green on the underside.

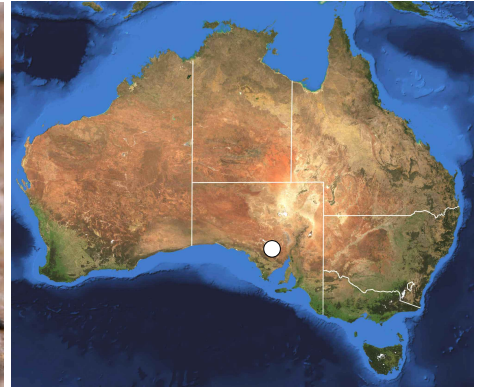


Maratus volpei

Schubert 2020

Maratus volpei Schubert 2020b

The female *M. volpei*, and the legs of the male, are white, apparently contributing to their concealment on the salt flats at Lake Hart in South Australia. Both legs I and II are extended and raised by the male during courtship display. Photograph © Nick Volpe, used with permission.

**The *flavus* group**

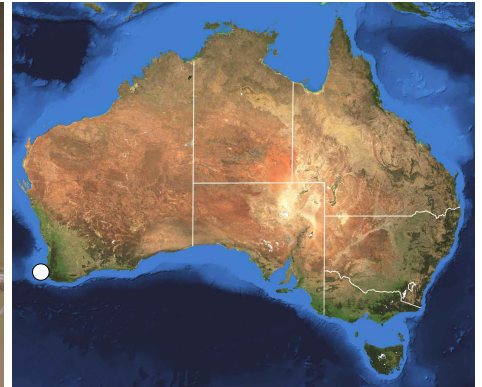
This group now includes eight species, all endemic to the southwestern corner of Western Australia. Structure of the male pedipalp and the epigynum indicates that these are closely related to other endemic groups from that region, including the *linnaei*, *mungaich*, and *vespa* groups (group 41 in Figure 1). The *flavus* group is quite diverse and at present serves as a repository for a series of species that differ significantly in appearance and courtship behaviour from species placed in the other southwestern groups.

Maratus boranup

Otto & Hill 2018

Maratus boranup Otto & Hill 2018a

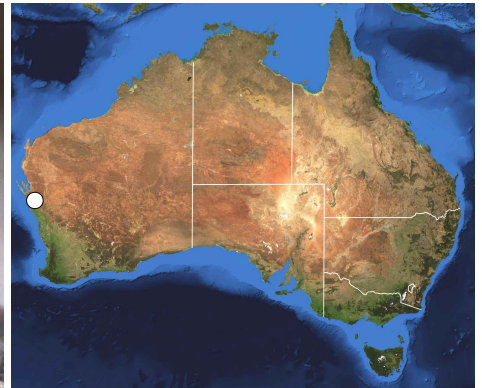
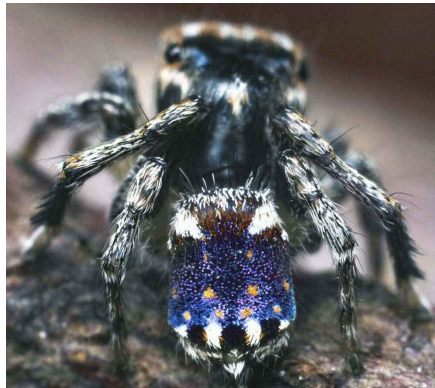
Courtship of the male *M. boranup* includes opisthosomal bobbing and semaphore signaling with their extended legs III, but no elevation or display of the dorsal opisthosoma (fan). However, as shown here, males do elevate the opisthosoma when they mate.

***Maratus constellatus***

Schubert 2020

Maratus constellatus Schubert 2020b

From Kalbarri National Park. The male *M. constellatus* has rows of orange spots across a violet posterodorsal opisthosoma, and rounded flaps. Found on plants in arid scrubland. The female is not known. Photograph © Joseph Schubert, used with permission.

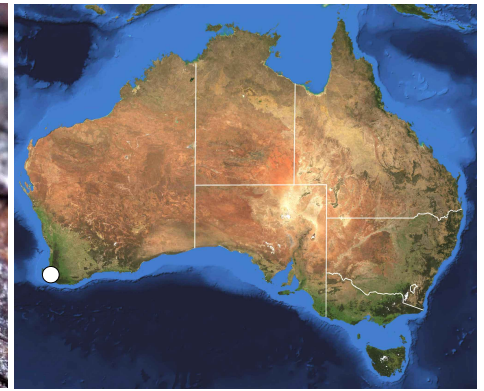
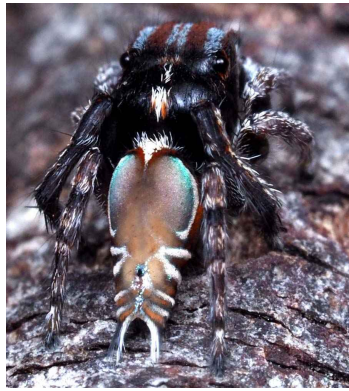


Maratus felinus

Schubert 2019

Maratus felinus Schubert 2019a

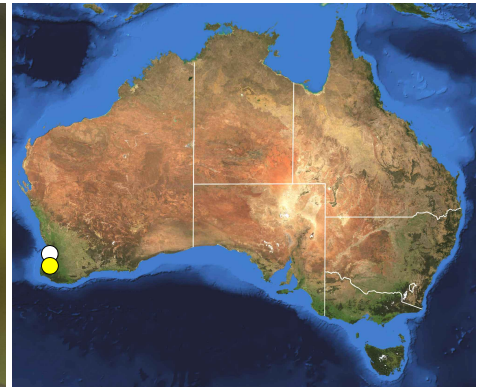
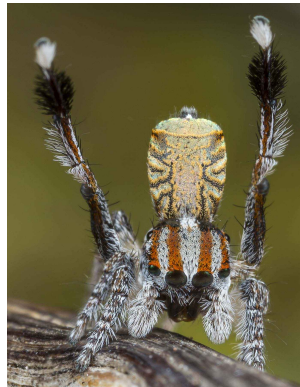
This species is known only from the vicinity of Lake Jasper in Western Australia. The name *felinus* is based on the cat-like appearance of the markings of the dorsal opisthosoma (fan). When elevated, the two tufts at the rear of the fan look like the ears of an exotic cat. Photograph © Joseph Schubert, used with permission.

***Maratus flavus***

Otto & Hill 2018

Maratus flavus Otto & Hill 2018a; Girard et al. 2021

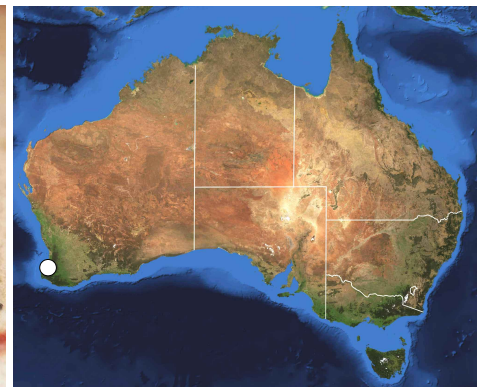
This spider is known only from the coast south of Perth. Like *M. boranup*, *M. flavus* males rely greatly on semaphore signaling with legs III when they display to females, but unlike that species they also display their distinctive, mustard yellow opisthosoma. Legs III of the male are highly ornamented, with tufts of long black setae surrounding each metatarsus, and a thin red-brown line set off by a fringe of white setae on the front of each patella and tibia.

***Maratus suae***

Schubert 2020

Maratus suae Schubert 2020b

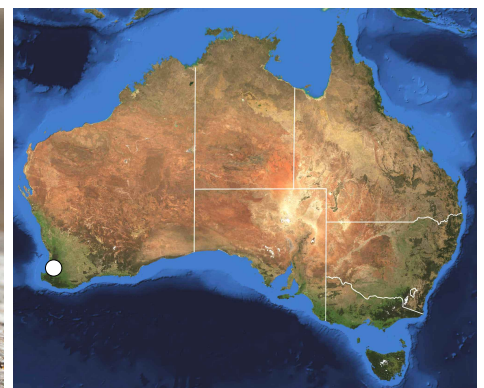
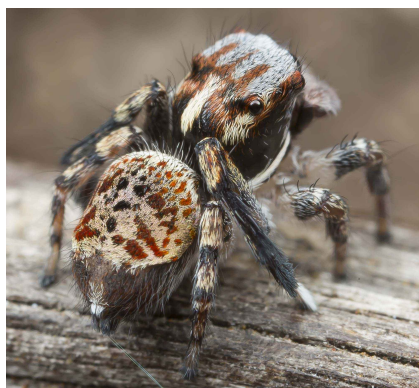
A close relative of *M. tessellatus*, but unlike that species the male *M. suae* has lateral flaps that are extended as part of its display. Found in good numbers on *Trachyandra divariacata* plants in the Leschenault Peninsula Conservation Park. Photograph © Joseph Schubert, used with permission.

***Maratus tessellatus***

Otto & Hill 2016

Maratus tessellatus Otto & Hill 2016b; Whyte & Anderson 2017

Males have a distinctive tessellated pattern of dark scales on their fan, but do not use this fan in courtship display, a display in which legs III are extended and rapidly waved in front of a female. This species is known only from Bunbury, Western Australia.



Maratus tiddalik

Otto & Hill 2020

Maratus tiddalik Otto & Hill 2020

A close relative of *M. boranup*, the pattern of scales on the dorsal opisthosoma of the male approximate the outline of a frog, hence this species was named after Tiddalik the Frog after a popular Dreaming Story. Leg II semaphores rather than the fan are displayed by the male during courtship. Found on succulent coastal plants at Cape Naturaliste.

***Maratus trigonus***

Otto & Hill 2017

Maratus trigonus Otto & Hill 2017b;
Maratus sp. Whyte & Anderson 2017

Known only from the summit of Mt. Lindesay, males can be identified by a white "crown" at the top of a triangular fan. In one display both legs III are waved as the fan is rotated from side to side. In a second display the fan is twisted to one side and a single leg is kicked.

**The *harrisi* group**

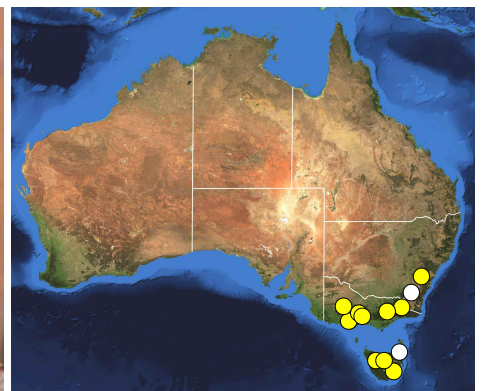
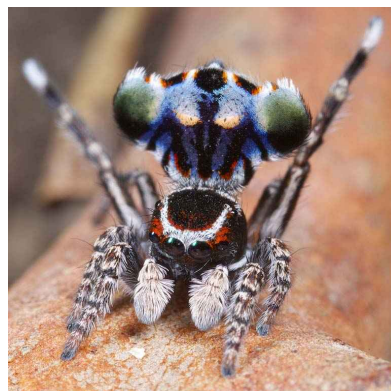
This small group includes two closely related species (*M. harrisi* and *M. lobatus*) both with a lobate or rounded flap on either side of the male fan. The discovery and later rediscovery of *M. harrisi* by Stuart Harris was the subject of an award-winning documentary entitled *Maratus: A Documystery*.

Maratus harrisi

Otto & Hill 2011

Maratus harrisi Otto & Hill 2011b, 2016b; Hoyer & McQuillan 2014; Waldock 2015; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

Ornamentation of the eye region varies across the range of *M. harrisi*. This male is from New South Wales.

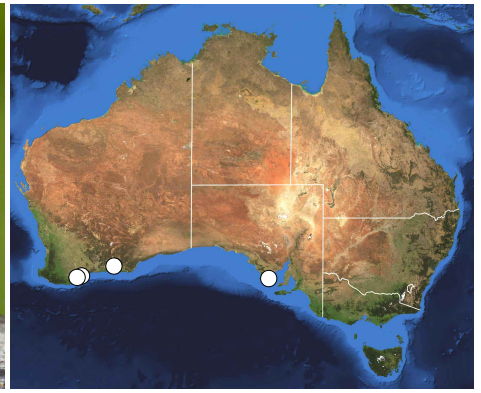
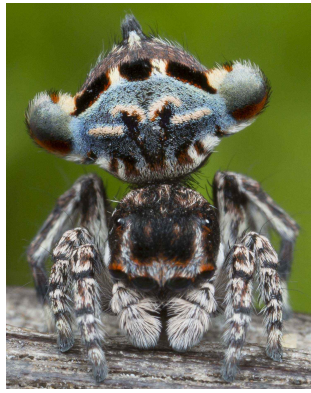


Maratus lobatus

Otto & Hill 2016

Maratus lobatus Otto & Hill 2016b; Whyte & Anderson 2017

This close relative of *M. harrisi* from the southern coastal region of Australia has a slightly different pattern of white stripes across the fan. Unlike *M. harrisi*, male *M. lobatus* do not raise legs III as they display their elevated and expanded fan to females.

**The linnaei group**

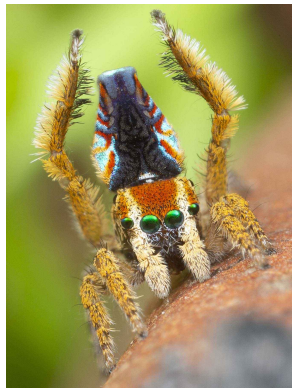
This group contains four species from the southwestern corner of Western Australia, an area of extraordinary biodiversity. Except for *M. laurenae*, which appears to have some affinity to the *mungaich* group, males lack flaps and rotate their opisthosoma toward one side and then to the other as they display to attentive females at a distance of less than 4 mm. The opisthosoma of *M. linnaei* is more tapered or conical, more cylindrical in *M. electricus*. The opisthosoma bears a darker central pattern and is truncated at the rear in *M. cuspis*. This group appears to be most closely related to the *vespa* group, also endemic to this corner of Australia, but members of that group have prominent, lobate flaps.

Maratus cuspis

Otto & Hill 2019

Maratus cuspis Otto & Hill 2019a

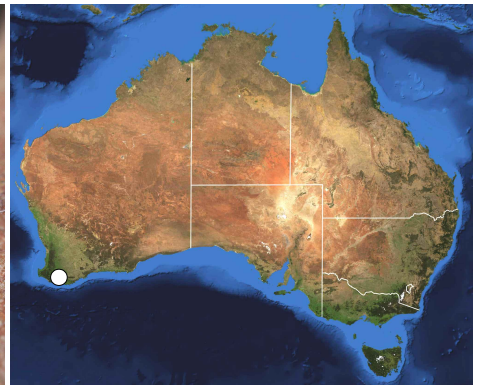
The species name *cuspis* refers to the appearance of a dark "spearhead" surrounded by flames on the dorsal opisthosoma. As males display, they rotate the fan on one side and then the other while holding legs III in a bracketing position around the fan. When they switch the side to which they are rotating the fan, they execute a very fast kick with one of their legs III. At times they bring legs III close together to tightly bracket the "spearhead."

***Maratus electricus***

Otto & Hill 2017

Maratus electricus Otto & Hill 2017b

This striking species is known from a single locality near Lake Muir. The species name *electricus* is based on the resemblance of parallel lines of red pigmented scales on the opisthosoma to electrical wiring on a circuit board. As in *M. linnaei*, bright white setae of the pedipalps align with tracts of white setae between the AME and ALE as well as lines of white setae that traverse the eye region.

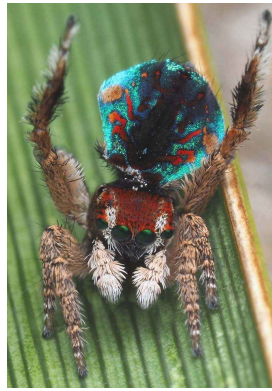


Maratus laurenae

Schubert 2020

Maratus laurenae Schubert 2020b

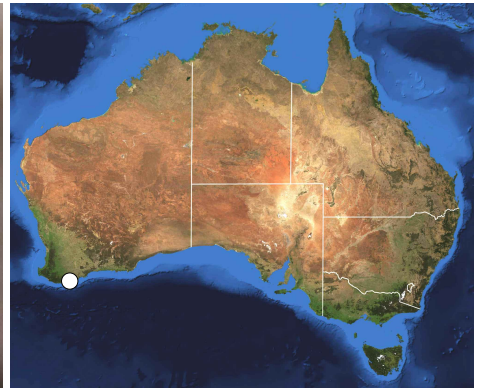
Unlike other species in this group, the male *M. laurenae* has flaps that are extended and retracted during display. It also has some characters of the *mungaich* group. *M. laurenae* was found on leaf litter in open woodland. Photograph © Joseph Schubert, used with permission.

***Maratus linnaei***

Waldock 2008

Maratus linnaei Waldock 2008; Hill 2009, 2010; Otto & Hill 2011b, 2016b, 2017b; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

Male *M. linnaei* have long bristle-like setae on legs III and hold their bright white pedipalps to the front. Initially only known from Two Peoples Bay Nature Reserve in Western Australia, this species is now known from additional locations in the Albany area.

**The *mungaich* group**

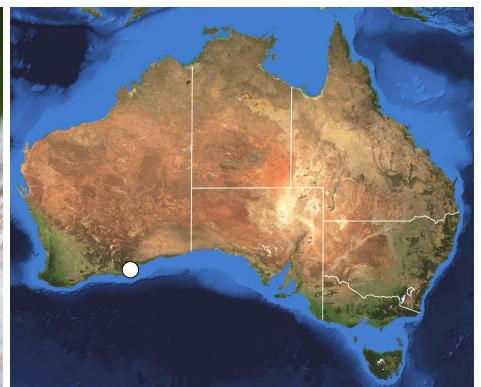
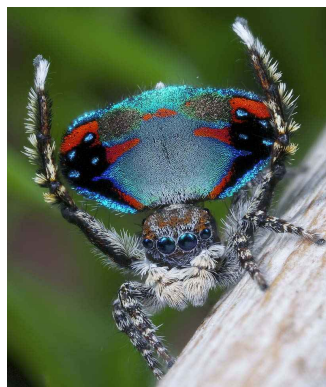
Endemic to the southern part of Western Australia, this group includes species with very wide, brightly-coloured fans covered with a pattern of bright red scales on a background of iridescent scales. All males in the group extend legs III, but several (*M. avibus*, *M. bubo*, *M. caeruleus*, and *M. madelineae*) closely bracket the fan with legs III as they display. In all species the expanded fan figures most prominently in courtship display, characterized by side to side rotation of the fan with legs III held in place. We recognize four distinct clades within this group: 1) *M. bubo* with a unique owl-like figure and bright orange lateral margins on the fan, 2) *M. avibus* + *M. caeruleus* + *M. madelineae* with a large unmarked area of iridescent scales toward the front of the fan, 3) *M. karrie* and *M. sarahae* with a wide central black patch and large black spots on the flaps and 4) *M. gemmifer* + *M. hortorum* + *M. melindae* + *M. mungaich* with a narrower central black patch and (if present) a small black or iridescent blue-white spot at the center of each flap.

Maratus avibus

Otto & Hill 2014

Maratus avibus Otto & Hill 2014a, 2016b; Whyte & Anderson 2017; McCoy et al. 2019; Girard et al. 2021

This is the mainland counterpart to the closely related *M. caeruleus*. Mating by *M. avibus* with *M. caeruleus* can result in viable hybrids. In the laboratory one male hybrid mated with a female *M. caeruleus* that laid eggs, resulting in several juvenile offspring. However two hybrid females that mated with hybrid males failed to produce any eggs.

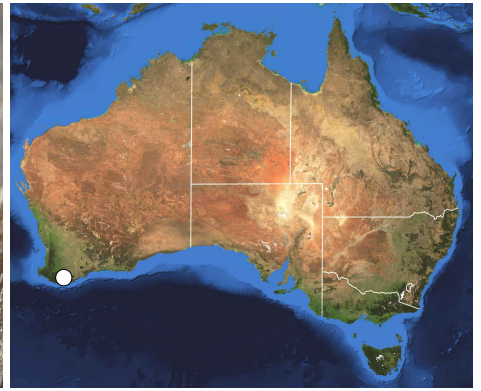
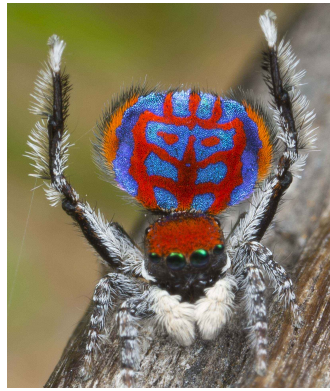


Maratus bubo

Otto & Hill 2016

Maratus bubo Otto & Hill 2016b; Whyte & Anderson 2017

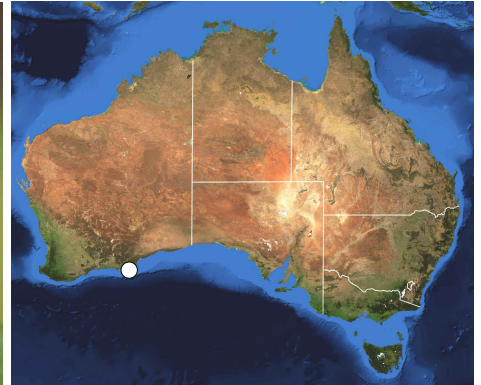
The pattern of the fan of *M. bubo* differs considerably from that of other members of this group, and resembles a primitive sketch of a horned owl (genus *Bubo*). Note how the fan is bracketed by the extended legs III.

***Maratus caeruleus***

Waldock 2013

Maratus caeruleus Waldock 2013, 2014; Otto & Hill 2014a, 2016b; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

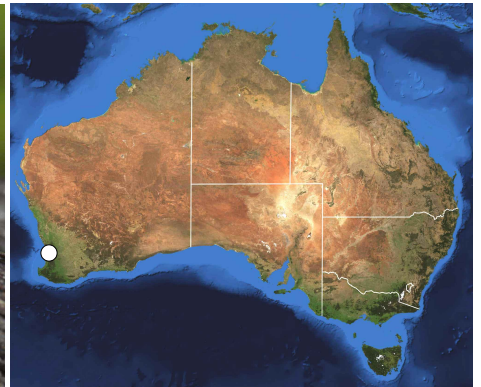
This large species is known only from Middle Island in the Recherche Archipelago just off the southern coast of Western Australia where the closely related *M. avibus* is found. It resembles *M. madelineae* but lacks the large central spot on the fan.

***Maratus gemmifer***

Otto & Hill 2017

Maratus gemmifer Otto & Hill 2017b

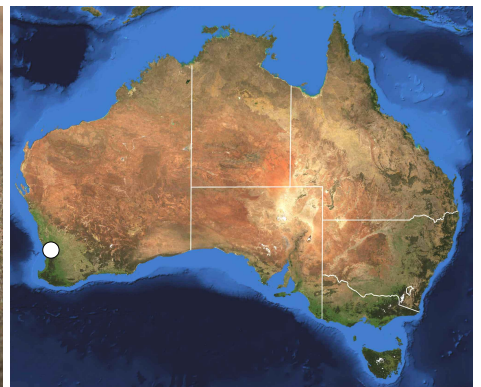
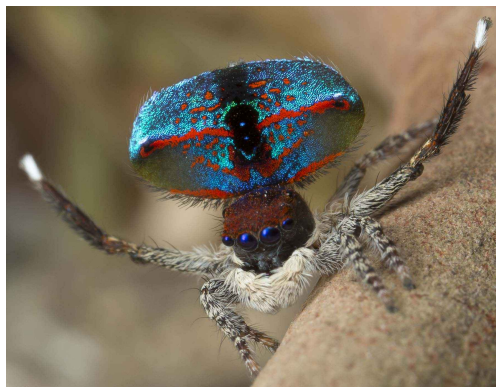
M. gemmifer males have a small bright spot comprised of iridescent white-blue scales at the center of each flap of the fan, and a single blue spot toward the rear of the central black patch.

***Maratus hortorum***

Waldock 2014

Maratus mungaich : Waldock 1995 (in part); Otto & Hill 2012b (in part), 2014a (in part); *Maratus hortorum* Waldock 2014; McCoy et al. 2019

This species is distinguished from *M. mungaich* by the presence of two small blue spots in the black central spot of the fan.



Maratus karrie

Waldock 2013

Maratus mungaich Waldock 1995 (in part); *Maratus* sp. 'Darlington's Peacock Spider' Hill & Otto 2011 (Darlington specimens in MCZ only); *Maratus* sp. A Otto & Hill 2011b, 2012b (Darlington specimens in MCZ only); *Maratus karrie* Waldock 2013, 2014; Otto & Hill 2014a, 2016b; McCoy et al. 2019

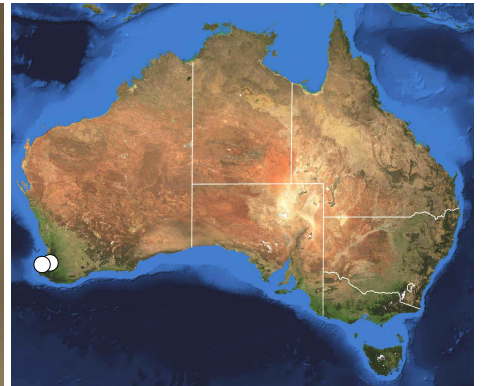
Males have a large black spot on each flap of the fan. They are similar to *M. sarahae* but much smaller and they occur in a different habitat.

***Maratus madelineae***

Waldock 2014

Maratus madelineae Waldock 2014; Otto & Hill 2016b; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Waldock et al. 2020; Girard et al. 2021

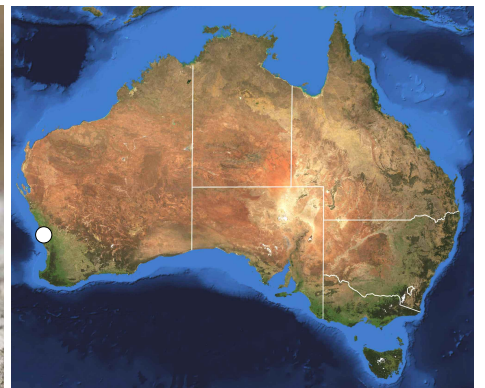
Males resemble *M. avibus* and *M. caeruleus* with respect to their colouration, but have a prominent posteromedian black spot and a more complex pattern of red scales on the fan.

***Maratus melindae melindae***

Waldock 2013

Maratus mungaich : Waldock 1995 (in part); *Maratus melindae* Waldock 2013, 2014; Otto & Hill 2014a; *Maratus melindae melindae* Otto & Hill 2017b; *Maratus* sp. Whyte & Anderson 2017

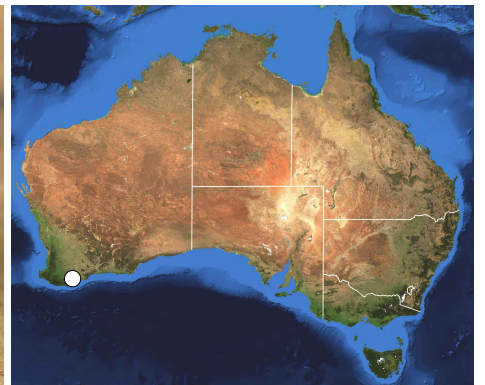
This species has a dark brown eye region and lacks a black patch on each flap of the fan.

***Maratus melindae corus***

Otto & Hill 2017

Maratus melindae corus Otto & Hill 2017b

M. m. corus males have a second black spot behind the middorsal black spot on the opisthosoma, and lack the scattered red spots found on the fan of *M. m. melindae*. This male was found at the Banksia Reserve, Verne Hill, east of Cervantes.

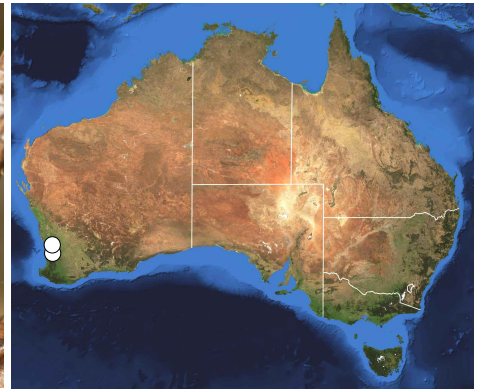
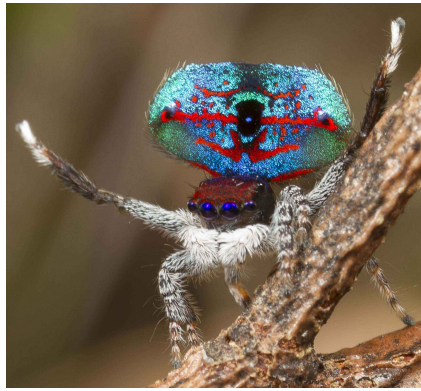


Maratus mungaich

Waldock 1995

Maratus mungaich Waldock 1995, 2013, 2014; Hill 2009, 2010a; Otto & Hill 2011b, 2012b, 2014a, 2016b; Girard & Endler 2014; Hsiung et al. 2014; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

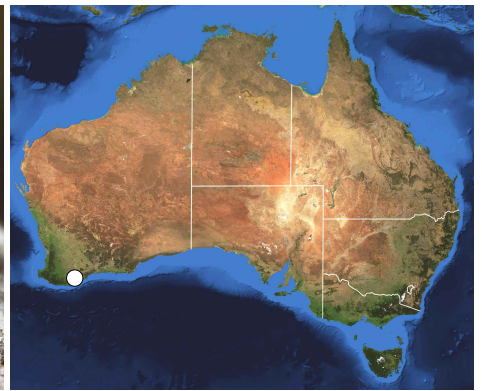
Male *M. mungaich* have a small black spot surrounded by red on each flap, and a single small blue spot at the center of the central black spot of the fan. Found inland from Perth.

***Maratus sarahae***

Waldock 2013

'Darlington's Peacock Spider' Hill & Otto 2011 (photo by Framenau 2007 only); *Maratus* sp. A Otto & Hill 2011b, 2012b (all but Darlington MCZ specimens); *Maratus sarahae* Waldock 2013, 2014; Otto & Hill 2014a, 2016b; Girard & Endler 2014; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

This is a relatively large species, known only from the two highest peaks in the Stirling Ranges, Bluff Knoll and Ellen Peak.

**The pavonis group**

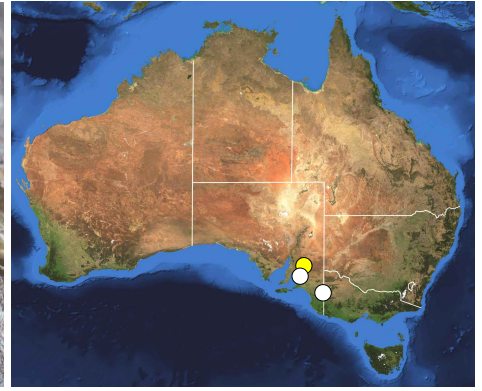
Dunn first used the Latin word for "peacock" (*pavo*) when he described *M. pavonis* in 1947. He later wrote an account of the display of this spider in a now-defunct Australian magazine, *Walkabout* (Dunn 1957). At the time, only two species in this group were known, *M. pavonis* and *M. splendens*. Males within this group can often be identified by the presence of a large red circle or "target" on the fan, but this is often obscured or replaced by a covering of light brown scales. Some males do not even raise their fan as they display. Spiders of Western Australia presently identified as either *M. pavonis*, *M. pavonis* var. *brunneis*, or *M. pavonis* var. *normalup* (Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e; Baehr & Whyte 2016) are included here with *M. pavonis* but need further study. The recent DNA analysis by Girard et al. (2021) suggests that these represent at least one separate species, or a species complex yet to be described. Unlike the eastern *M. pavonis*, the fan of these western spiders may have large lateral flaps or more light-brown scale cover, and the legs may have fewer markings.

Maratus leo

Otto & Hill 2014

Maratus leo Otto & Hill 2014d; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

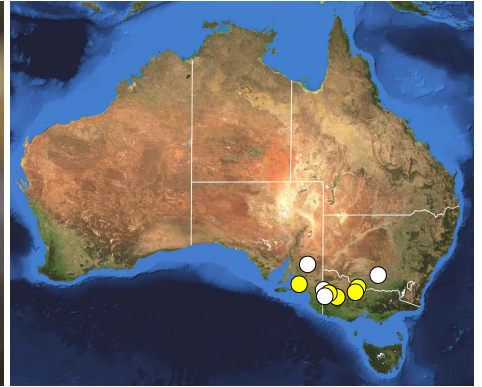
M. leo males are relatively cryptic and do not raise their fan when they display to females, but there are nonetheless a few iridescent blue-green scales on the dorsal opisthosoma. In some males the scales that form the circular figure of the fan are dark brown rather than dull red as shown here.

***Maratus literatus***

Otto & Hill 2014

Maratus pavonis var. *m-insignitis* Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e; *Maratus literatus* Otto & Hill 2014d; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

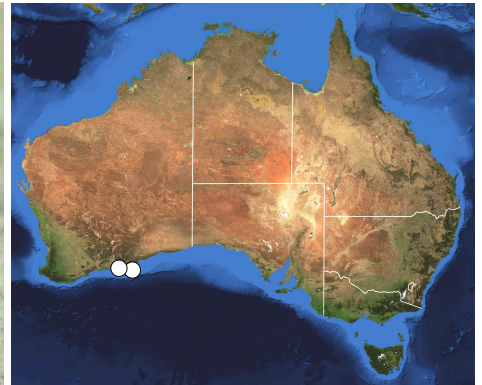
Unlike the eastern *M. pavonis*, male *M. literatus* have a wide fan with flaps, and a red m-shaped figure across the eye region.

***Maratus maritimus***

Otto & Hill 2014

Maratus maritimus Otto & Hill 2014d; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

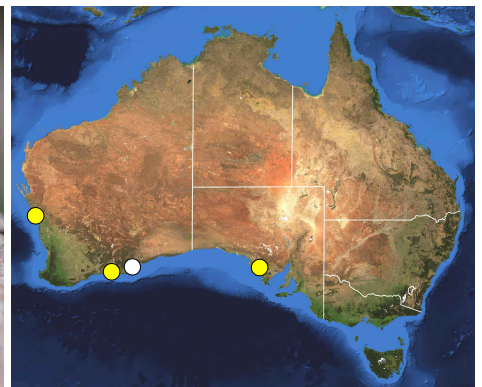
Males of this western species have only a narrow median line of iridescent scales on the fan. Like *M. leo*, they are cryptic and rely on movements of legs III to court females. They are found at lower elevations near the southern coast.

***Maratus montanus***

Otto & Hill 2014

Maratus montanus Otto & Hill 2014d; Whyte & Anderson 2017

This species was originally described from Mt. Ragged in Western Australia but has since been found also at Geraldton (Western Australia) and the Eyre Peninsula (South Australia), both far from the original location. Males are similar to *M. maritimus* but they elevate their fan as they display to females.

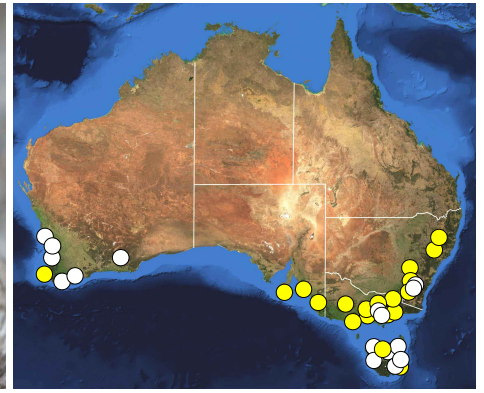


Maratus pavonis

(Dunn 1947)

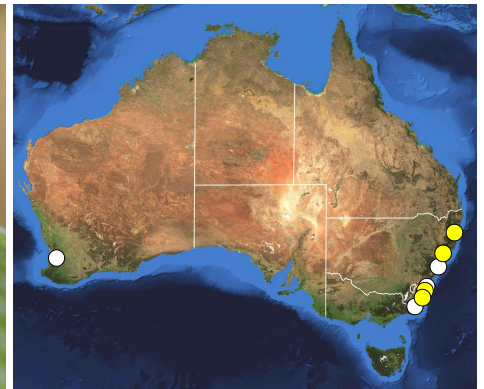
Saitis pavonis Dunn 1947, 1957; *Maratus pavonis* : Žabka 1991; Waldock 1993, 2007, 2008, 2015; Hill 2009, 2010; Otto & Hill 2010, 2011b, 2012c, 2012e, 2014d, 2013b; Hill & Otto 2011; Girard *et al.* 2011; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard *et al.* 2021; *Maratus pavonis* var. *normalup* Baehr & Whyte 2016;

This male is from Kangaroo Island. Western males have a wider fan with flaps and fewer bands on the legs.

***Maratus splendens***

(Rainbow 1896)

Attus splendens Rainbow 1896; *Saitis splendens* : Simon 1901a; Dunn 1947; *Saitis rainbowi* Roewer 1951; *Maratus rainbowi* : Waldock 2008; Hill 2009, 2010; Girard *et al.* 2021; *Maratus splendens* : Žabka 1991; Hill & Otto 2011; Otto & Hill 2011b, 2012c, 2012e, 2013b, 2014d; Girard *et al.* 2011; Foelix *et al.* 2013; Zhang & Maddison 2013; De Angelis *et al.* 2013; Girard & Endler 2014; Hsiung *et al.* 2014; Stavenga *et al.* 2016; Whyte & Anderson 2017



Males of this smaller species have a band of dark, iridescent blue scales between the PLE.

Maratus sylvestris

Otto & Hill 2019

Maratus sylvestris Otto & Hill 2019a

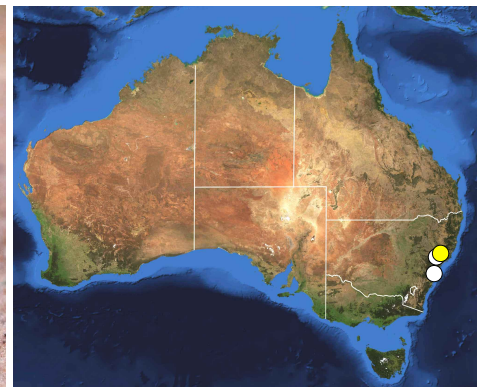
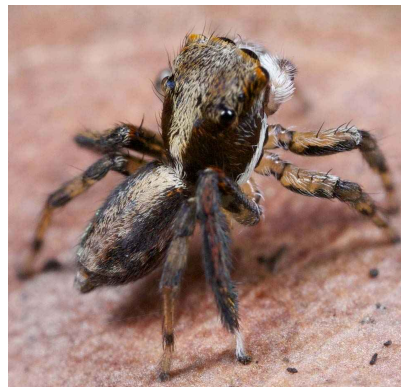
Males have a broad, red band on either side of the eye region, and relatively long legs III. Like *M. watagansi*, these are unusual as they are found in wet sclerophyll or rainforest habitats.

***Maratus watagansi***

Otto & Hill 2013

Maratus watagansi Otto & Hill 2013b, 2014d; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard *et al.* 2021

Males of this cryptic eastern species also do not raise the fan as they display to females. Note the broad dorsal, median band of light brown scales. From the Watagans of eastern New South Wales. One of only two peacock spiders known to inhabit rainforest.



The *personatus* group

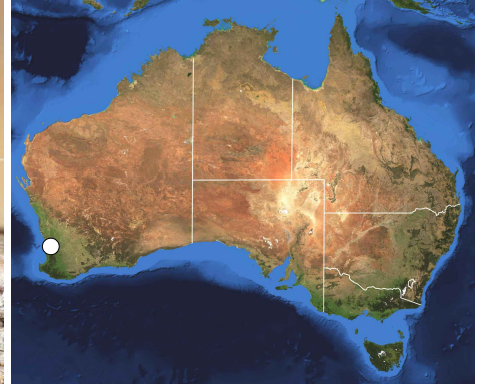
This group includes two small but colourful species with blue faces from southwestern Australia. Neither uses the fan in courtship display.

Maratus banyowla

Otto & Hill 2019

Maratus banyowla Otto & Hill 2019c

This small species resembles *M. personatus*, but males have bright yellow legs and a distinctive transverse, zig-zag pattern across the rear of the eye region. Found on or near the ground in a complex open woodland with exposed quartzite on the surface, and Banyowla Regional Park near Perth.

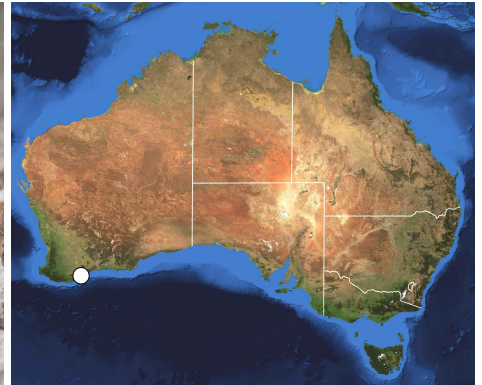


Maratus personatus

Otto & Hill 2015

Maratus personatus Otto & Hill 2015d; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

Male *M. personatus* have a bright blue mask and attract females with the active movement of legs III, but do not raise the opisthosoma as part of this display.



The *scutulatus* group

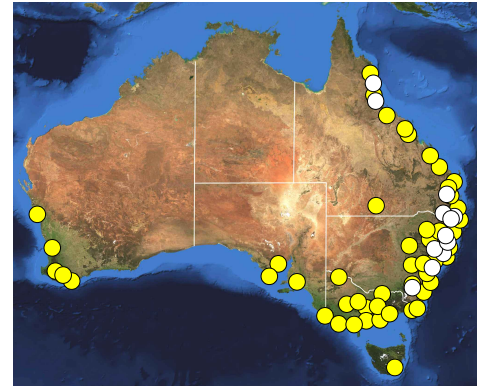
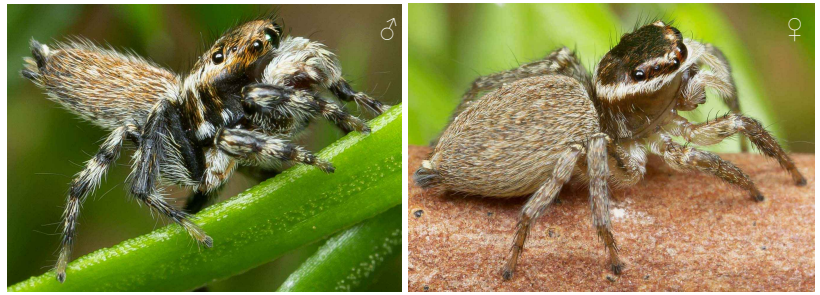
Formerly placed in the genus *Hypoblemum* Peckham & Peckham 1886, the two species in this group are widely-distributed in the inhabited parts of Australia. Both are usually observed in association with human dwellings (synanthropic). One species (*M. griseus*) is widely distributed on both islands of New Zealand. Because females are better-known and easy to recognize, we also include their photographs. Previously (Otto, Hill & Whyte 2019) we recognized the affinity of these spiders to *Maratus*, as a “basal” group that might represent the early evolution of peacock spiders. This relationship has now been affirmed with the recent DNA study by Girard et al. (2021). The many Australian locality records posted on the *Atlas of Living Australia* and *iNaturalist* are shown on each map.

Maratus griseus

(Keyserling 1882)

Cytaea grisea Keyserling 1882; *Acmaea villosa* Keyserling 1883; *Drepanophora villosum* Keyserling 1883; *Hypoblemum villosum* Peckham & Peckham 1885; Whyte & Anderson 2107; *Euophrys parvula* Forster & Forster 1972; Jackson & Willey 1995; *Lycidas griseus* Żabka 1987; *Hypoblemum* sp. Davies & Żabka 1889; *Hypoblemum albobittatum* Żabka & Pollard 2002a, 2002b; Paquin, Vink & Dupérré 2010; Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e; Dolev & Nelson 2016; Prószyński 2017; Annable 2017; *Maratus griseus* Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e; *Hypoblemum* cf. *albobittatus* Zhang & Maddison 2013; *Hypoblemum griseum* Otto, Hill & Whyte 2019; Girard et al. 2021; *Maratus griseus*, **combination restored**

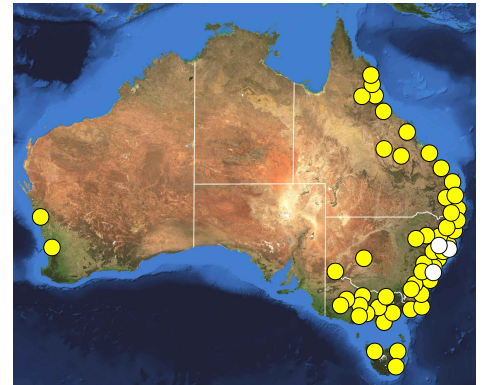
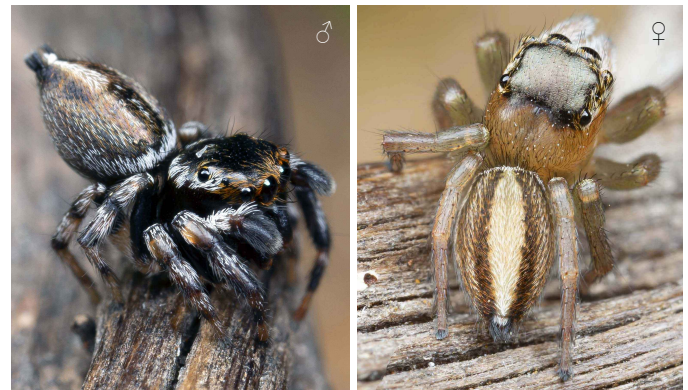
This synanthrope, for some time known as *Hypoblemum albobittatum*, may represent the most frequently encountered jumping spider in Australasia. Males and females are similar in appearance but can vary considerably in size from locality to locality. The dorsal opisthosoma of the male is covered with shaggy “fur” and the plate or scute typical of *Maratus* is lacking.

***Maratus scutulatus***

(L. Koch 1881)

Ergane scutulata L. Koch 1881; *Ergane dialeuca* L. Koch 1881; Keyserling 1883; *Hasarius lineatus* Keyserling 1881; *Habrocestum albobittatum* Keyserling 1882; *Hypoblemum albobittatum* Whyte & Anderson 2017; *Sigytes scutulata* Simon 1903; *Sigytes dialeuca* Simon 1903; *Lycidas karschi* Żabka 1987, 1991; *Lycidas scutulatus* Żabka 1987, 1991; *Lycidas* sp. Davies & Żabka 1989; *Lycidas dialeuceus* Żabka 1991; *Maratus dialeucus* Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e; *Maratus karschi* Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e; *Maratus scutulatus* Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e; *Hypoblemum* sp. Zhang & Maddison 2013; *Lycidas* cf. *griseus* Zhang & Maddison 2013; *Lycidas* cf. *karschi* Zhang & Maddison 2013; *Hypoblemum scutulatum* Otto, Hill & Whyte 2019; Girard et al. 2021; *Maratus scutulatus*, **combination restored**

The striped female of this species is better known. Although closely related to *M. griseus*, the male has a shiny anterodorsal plate, or scute. As shown here, the male raises the opisthosoma during courtship display.



The *tasmanicus* group

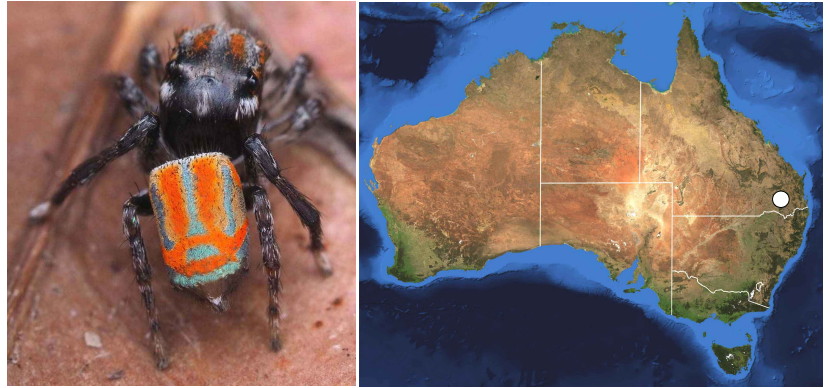
This group now includes two parapatric eastern species. Males have a large triangular fan with lobate flaps, each flap bearing a large black spot. *M. australis* resembles *M. tasmanicus* but has been removed from this group as the recent DNA study by Girard et al. (2021) suggests that *M. australis* has more affinity to the southwestern clade (clade 41 in figure 1).

Maratus occasus

Schubert 2019

Maratus occasus Schubert 2019b

Unlike the other species in this group, male *M. occasus* lack a middorsal tract of red or orange scales on the opisthosoma. Their pedipalps are neither striped as in *M. australis*, nor banded as in *M. tasmanicus*. Found near Lake Broadwater in Queensland. Photo © Joseph Schubert, used with permission.

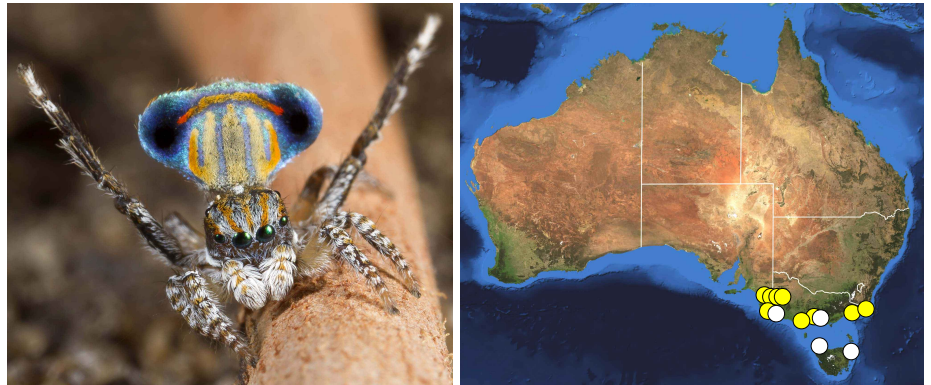


Maratus tasmanicus

Otto & Hill 2013

Maratus sp. C Otto & Hill 2011b; *Maratus tasmanicus* Otto & Hill 2013b; Waldock 2015; Otto & Hill 2016b; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Schubert 2019b; Girard et al. 2021

M. tasmanicus was first found in Tasmania, only later on the Australian mainland. It occurs on beaches as well and inland areas. Males resemble *M. australis* but lack the stripes on the pedipalps of that species.



The *velutinus* group

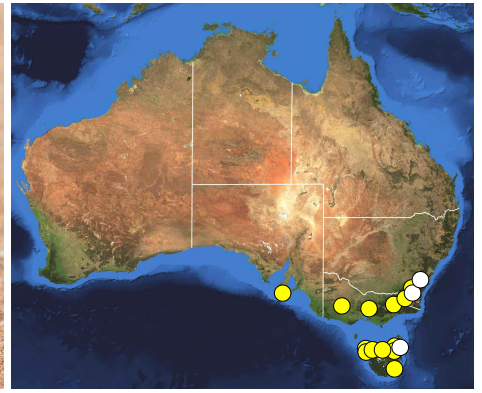
The two members of this group are similar but can be separated by the stripes on the carapace of *M. velutinus*. Males of both species have a velvety-black fan with elongated, black dorsal scales (or *squamous setae* after Waldock 2015) that extend to the rear. The fan is raised and moved from side to side but they do not raise legs III as they display to females.

Maratus proszynskii

Waldock 2015

Maratus proszynskii Waldock 2015; Girard et al. 2021

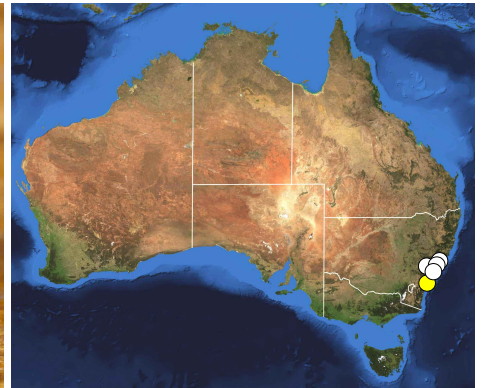
Waldock (2015) noted the similarity of this species to *M. velutinus*. The fan bears a short, narrow anteromedian stripe comprised of iridescent scales bounded by brown scales. This species was recently described from Tasmania but has also been found at several other locations. The male shown here is from Canberra.

***Maratus velutinus***

Otto & Hill 2012

Maratus velutinus Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e; Waldock 2015; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

The male of this species has a stripe behind each AME. *M. velutinus* has only been found in the wider Sydney area.

**The *vespa* group**

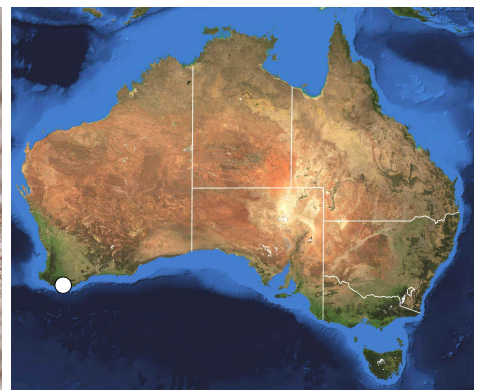
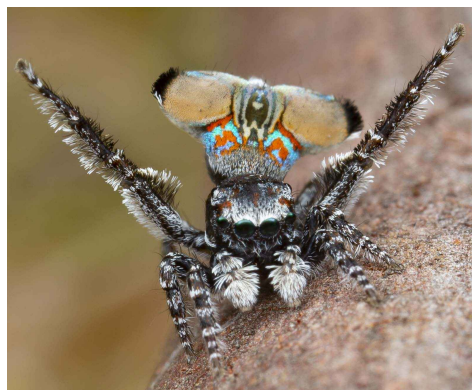
This group is closely related to the *linnaei* group and it is also endemic to the southwestern corner of Australia. As do members of that group, *vespa* group males move their fan from side to side in front of attentive females at a distance of only a few millimeters, framed by their elevated and heavily fringed legs III. However *vespa* group males have prominent lobate flaps, and the lateral margins of these flaps are ornamented in a manner that attract a female when they are rotated far to the left or right behind the legs III. This remarkable and diverse group was only recently discovered.

Maratus aquilus

Schubert 2019

Maratus aquilus Schubert 2019a; Hill & Otto 2019

The species name *aquilus* is a reference to the fact that, when viewed upside-down, the fan of the male resembles the head of an eagle with its beak wide open. In one mode of display males tightly bracket the small "beak" on the fan between their extended legs III, and attending females look at this closely.

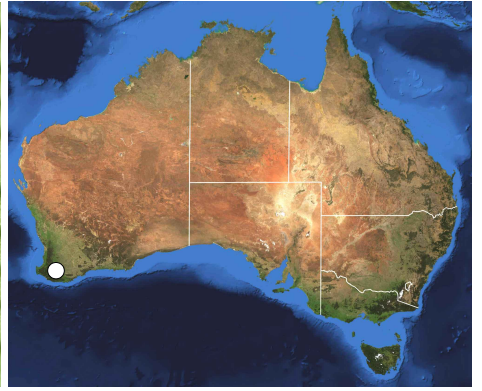


Maratus azureus

Schubert 2020

Maratus azureus Schubert 2020b

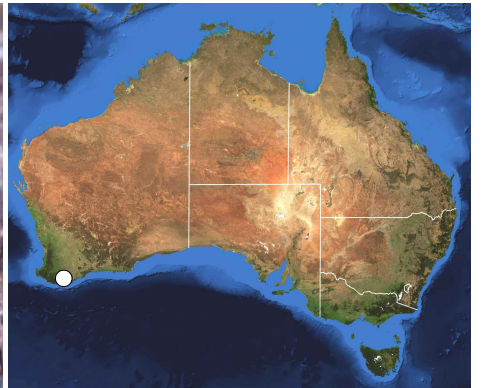
M. azureus closely resembles *M. unicus*. Each flap is acute, the front half violet, the rear blue. Found on grassy plants and eucalypt leaf litter in open woodland. Photograph © Joseph Schubert, used with permission.

***Maratus combustus***

Schubert 2019

Maratus combustus Schubert 2019a

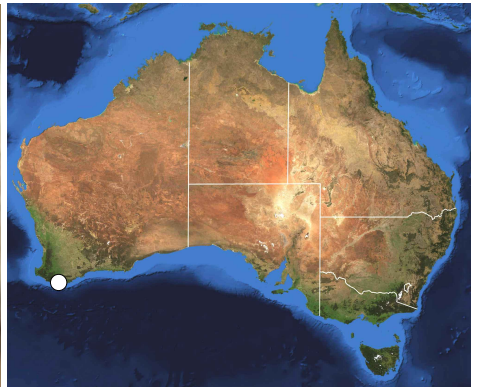
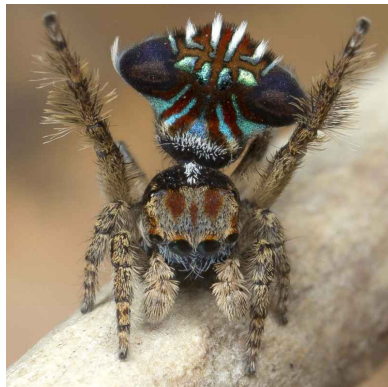
This close relative of *M. cristatus* has a fiery or burnt-orange colour on the fan, hence the name *combustus*. Although not shown here, males of this species also extend and display lateral opisthosomal flaps to females during courtship. Photo © Joseph Schubert, used with permission.

***Maratus cristatus***

Otto & Hill 2017

Maratus cristatus Otto & Hill 2017b; *Maratus* sp. Whyte & Anderson 2017

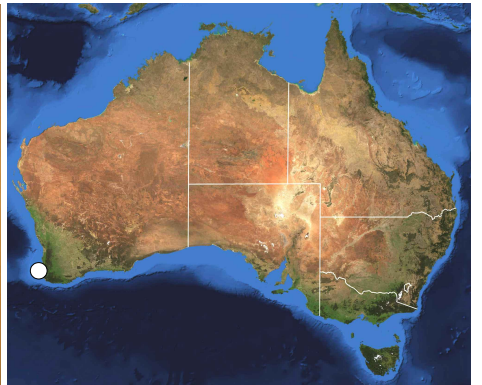
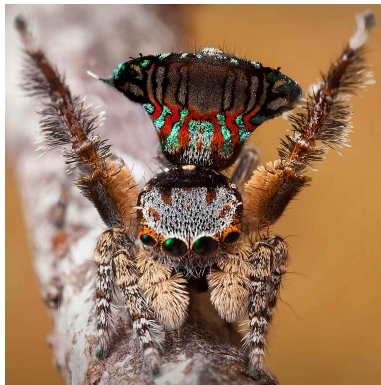
M. cristatus males come in two colours, brown as shown here and white. The pattern and colour of setae on the fan resembles the Union Jack, and the eight tufts of long white setae that extend behind the posterior margin of the fan make it easy to recognize this species. The name *cristatus* means "tufted" and this is also the species name of the Peacock (*Pavo cristatus*).

***Maratus fletcheri***

Waldock 2020

Maratus fletcheri Waldock 2020, in Waldock, Duncan, Dow, Fletcher, O'Toole & Irvine 2020

As do other members of the *vespa* group, *M. fletcheri* males rotate their fan from side to side as they display. This species has only been found in *Banksia*, jarrah *Eucalyptus marginata*) and marri (*Corymbia calophylla*) woodland near Treeton. Photograph © Adam Fletcher Photography, used with permission.

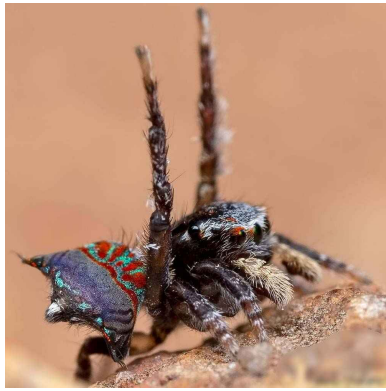


Maratus harveyi

Waldock 2020

Maratus harveyi Waldock 2020, in Waldock, Duncan, Dow, Fletcher, O'Toole & Irvine 2020

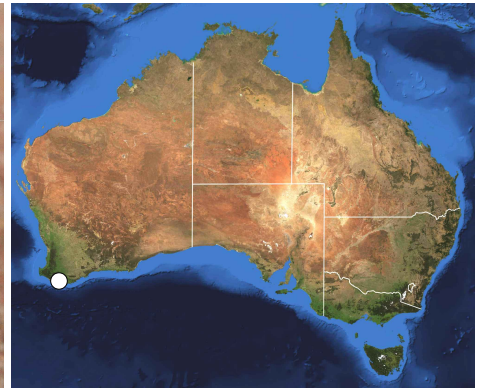
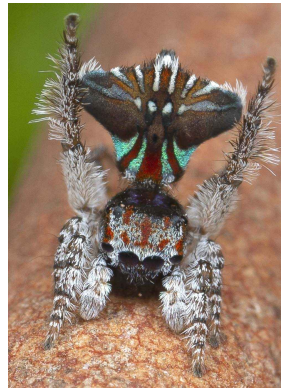
The posterior half of the dorsal opisthosoma of male *M. harveyi* is uniform grey. This species has only been found near Barrabup Road, Nannup. Photograph © Paul Irvine, used with permission.

***Maratus icarus***

Otto & Hill 2019

Maratus icarus Otto & Hill 2019a

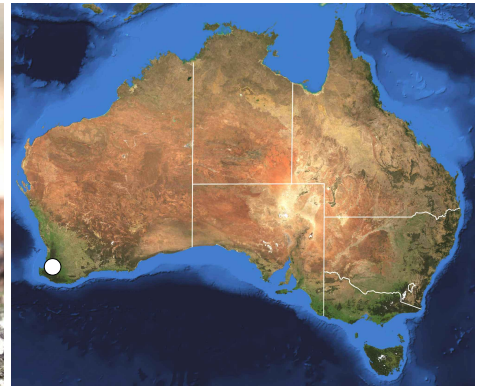
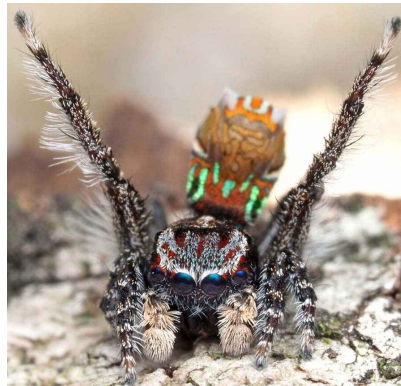
This species, a very close relative of *M. cristatus*, was named for the Icarus of Greek mythology, based on the appearance of a "winged figure" on the fan. It can be distinguished from *M. cristatus* by the division of the red anteromedial tract of the fan in that species, as well as by several details of the courtship display.

***Maratus noggerup***

Schubert 2020

Maratus noggerup Schubert 2020b

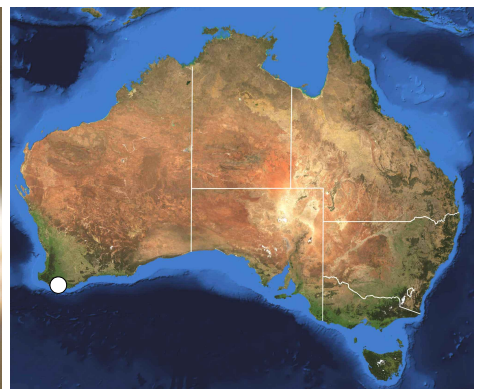
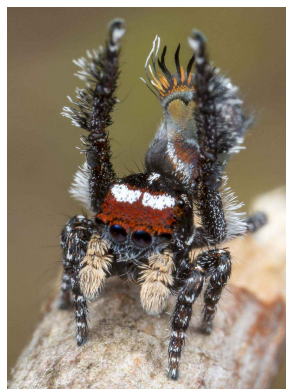
This close relative of *M. vespa* has only been found near Noggerup, in eucalypt leaf litter. Photograph © Joseph Schubert, used with permission.

***Maratus tortus***

Otto & Hill 2018

Maratus tortus Otto & Hill 2018b

The courtship display of the *M. tortus* male is very unusual in that only one ornamented side of the fan is displayed to a female at a time, even when the fan is held at the center as shown here. Rotation of the fan, twisted (hence the name *tortus*) from one side to the other and then back again, is complicated but follows a regular pattern that is described in detail with the published description of this species.

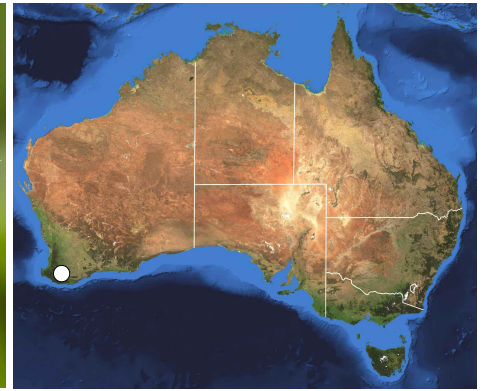


Maratus unicum

Otto & Hill 2018

Maratus unicum Otto & Hill 2018b

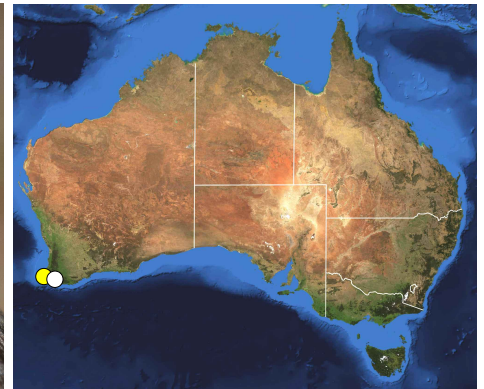
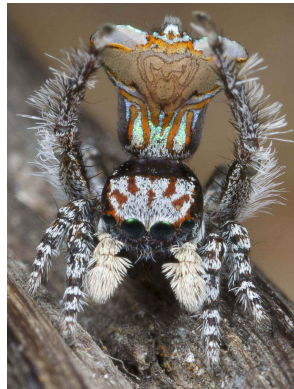
M. unicum resembles *M. cristatus*, but without the posterior tufts. Is it most similar to *M. azureus*, but the lines at the rear of the fan are more prominent in *M. unicum*. The lateral flaps of the opisthosoma are not rounded, but triangular and pointed. This species is known only from the Unicum Nature Reserve in Western Australia.

***Maratus vespa***

Otto & Hill 2016

Maratus vespa Otto & Hill 2016b; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

M. vespa males have a remarkable pattern of fine lines on the fan that resembles the front of a wasp. The male moves his fan to one side, then to a vertical position as shown here, and then to the other side as a watching female turns to follow his movement.

**The *vespertilio* group**

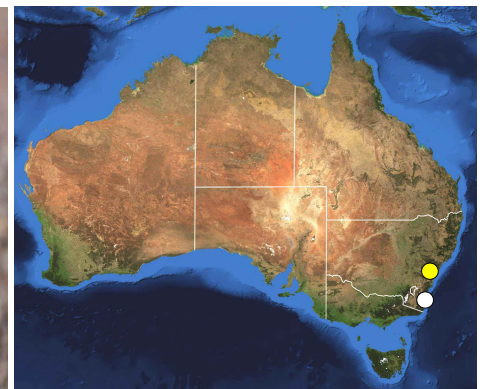
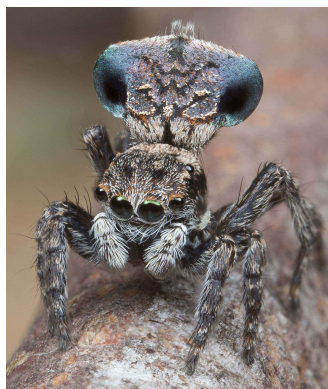
This includes the widely-distributed *M. vespertilio* and a second species, *M. sapphirus*, known from only two localities on the southern coast of New South Wales. These are similar in appearance but *M. sapphirus* has a more elliptical fan with a well-defined pattern of pigmented scales on a background of iridescent scales at the center. In *M. vespertilio* males the fan is more lobate, legs I and II have a dense cover of off-white to light yellow setae, and legs III are decorated with dark anterior femora and a fringe of long white setae extending below the patella to metatarsus. This agrees with the observation that legs III figure prominently in both courtship and agonistic displays of *M. vespertilio*.

Maratus sapphirus

Otto & Hill 2017

Maratus sapphirus Otto & Hill 2017c

This species was first found near Barraga Bay on the "Sapphire Coast" of New South Wales, but has now been found near Sydney. The tightly packed iridescent scales on the flaps of the males are thought to resemble sapphires, hence the name *sapphirus*. During courtship display the fan is rotated from side to side at irregular intervals at a low amplitude (only several degrees in either direction). Except for side-stepping, leg and pedipalp movement is not important to this display.

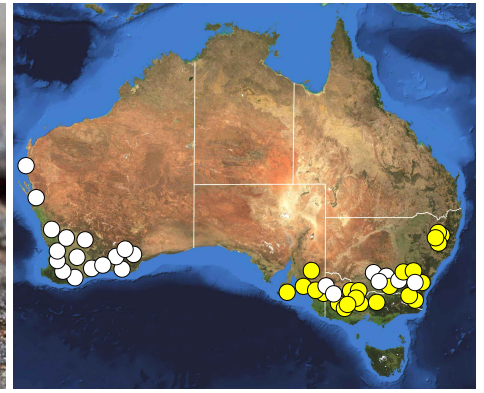


Maratus vespertilio

(Simon 1901)

Saitis vespertilio Simon 1901b; *Saitis vespertilis* Dunn 1947 (misspelled); *Maratus vespertilio* : Žabka 1991; Waldock 2008; Hill 2009, 2010; Otto & Hill 2011a, 2011b, 2012a, 2017c; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

Males of this cryptically coloured species engage in prolonged ritual contests, something not seen in any other *Maratus*. The Bat Peacock Spider is widely distributed and is found in drier habitats or on gravel.

**The volans group**

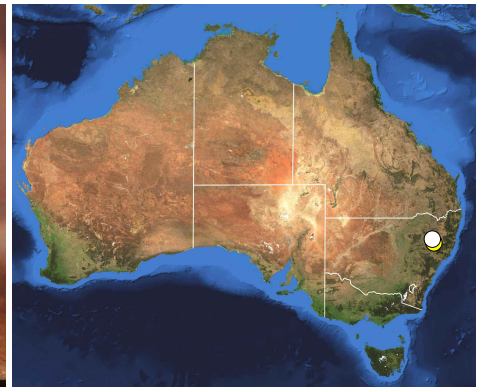
This group contains two of the most colourful peacock spiders, both from eastern Australia. Males of both species have a large, fringed fan with distinctive figures comprised of pigmented scales on a background of iridescent scales. Courtship display of both is similar, but *M. volans* displays with both legs III behind the fan, and *M. elephants* with one leg III in front of the fan and one leg III behind it. *M. volans* is widely distributed along the east coast of Australia and is easily the best-known of all peacock spiders. The species name *volans* relates to the fact that Pickard-Cambridge (1874) was told that this spider used its flaps to fly (although he also guessed that they had a "sexual" function). A black and white sketch of a *Maratus volans* specimen was figured in an early guide to flying animals of the British Museum (Ridewood 1912). This was the only peacock spider featured in a popular guide to Australian spiders by Mascord (1970), who still thought that it might fly.

Maratus elephants

(Otto & Hill 2015)

Maratus elephants Otto & Hill 2015c; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

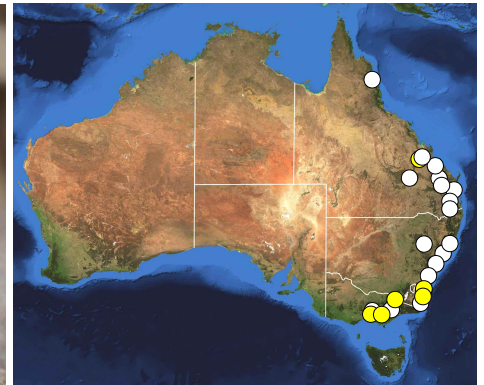
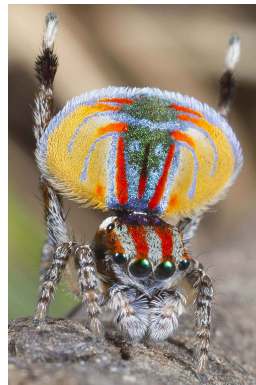
M. elephants has an unusual and finely-drawn figure on the front of the fan, resembling the head of an elephant with one ear on either flap. It is known from only a few sites in the interior of northeastern New South Wales.

***Maratus volans***

(O. Pickard-Cambridge 1874)

Salticus volans O. Pickard-Cambridge 1874; *Maratus amoenus* Karsch 1878; Žabka 1987; *Saitis volans* : Simon 1901a; Ridewood 1913; Butler 1933; Dunn 1947; Mascord 1970; Prószyński 1984; *Maratus volans* : Žabka 1991; Waldock 1995, 2007, 2008; Nieuwenhuys 2008; Hill 2009, 2010; Otto & Hill 2010, 2011a, 2011b, 2014b; Girard et al. 2011, 2015, 2018a, 2018b; Foelix et al. 2013; Girard & Endler 2014; Hsiung et al. 2014, 2017a; Baehr & Whyte 2016; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

Each large flap of the fan of *M. volans* has three wide stripes comprised of brilliant yellow, pigmented scales.



Species not assigned to a group

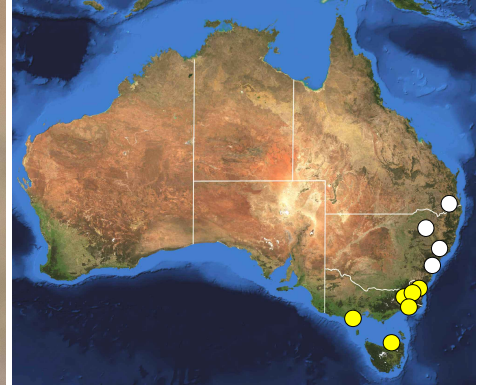
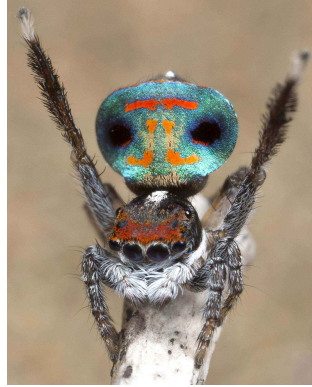
Each of the species shown here, including the type for *Maratus* (*M. amabilis*) is quite distinct and as a group they represent the great diversity of the Australian peacock spiders. The recent DNA study by Girard et al. (2021) placed *M. hesperus*, formerly *Saratus hesperus*, within the genus *Maratus* (Figure 1). *M. australis* closely resembles the eastern *M. tasmanicus*. *M. pardus* resembles *M. volans*.

Maratus amabilis

Karsch 1878

Maratus amabilis Karsch 1878; Žabka 1987, 1991; Waldock 1995, 2007, 2008; Hill 2009, 2010a; Otto & Hill 2010, 2011b, 2016b; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

Type species for the genus *Maratus*. The large black spots on the flaps of this species were mentioned in the original description. Ornamentation of the eye region and fan differs in each location where *M. amabilis* is found. This male is from Sydney.

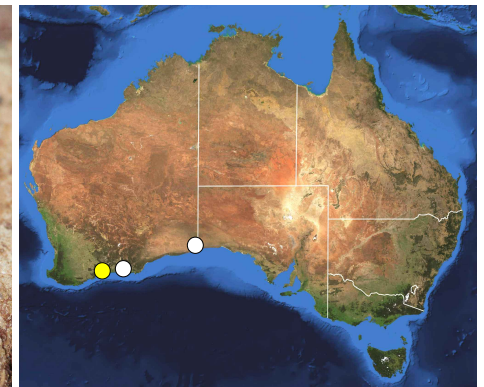


Maratus australis

Otto & Hill 2016

Maratus australis Otto & Hill 2016b; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Schubert 2019b; Girard et al. 2021

Males of this western species have a narrow black line running along the front of each pedipalp.

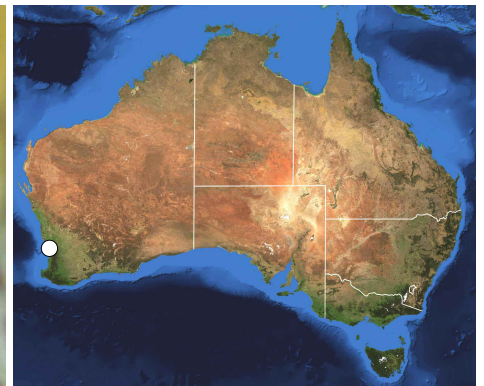


Maratus clupeatas

Otto & Hill 2014

Maratus sp. nov. Waldock 2007; *Maratus* species D Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e; *Maratus clupeatas* Otto & Hill 2014c; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

We have called this the *Gnangara Peacock Spider*, with reference to its occurrence in the Gnangara Mound north of Perth in Western Australia. The species name is a reference to the shield-like shape of the fan.

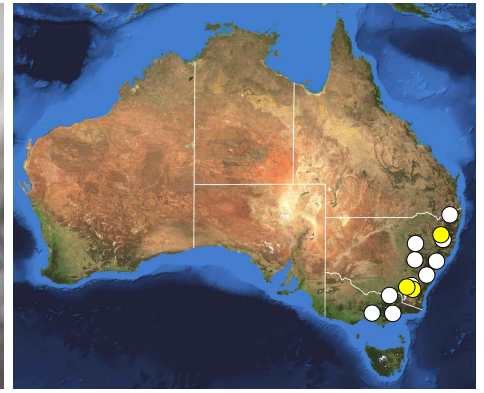


Maratus hesperus

(Otto & Hill 2017)

Saratus hesperus Otto & Hill 2017a; Girard et al. 2021;
Maratus sp. Whyte & Anderson 2017; *Maratus hesperus*, **new combination**

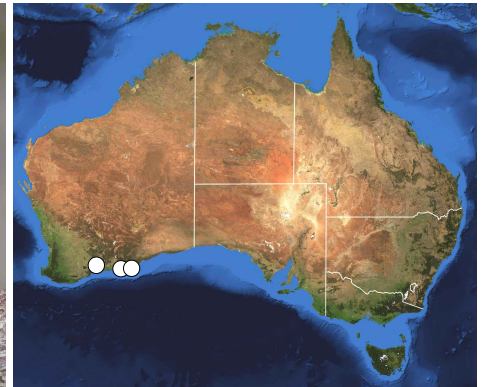
Similar to other peacock spiders in many respects, the genitalia of *M. hesperus* males and females are quite different. Emergent instars are boldly spotted and the deep blue or purple of the fan is based on layering of the cuticle rather than scale structure. The species name, *hesperus*, is based on the Greek name for the Evening Star (Εσπερος).

***Maratus pardus***

Otto & Hill 2014

Maratus pardus Otto & Hill 2014b; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

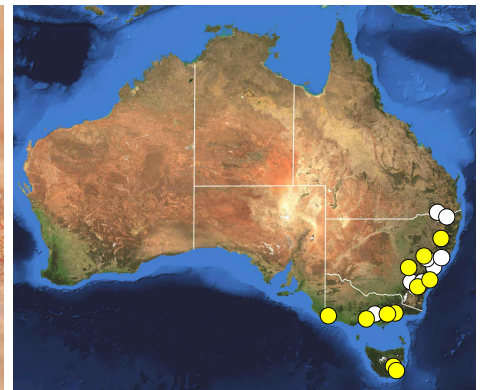
The male has prominent spots like a leopard, hence the name. Note the pair of vertical yellow-orange stripes on each flap of the fan. This species is known only from areas near the southern coast of Western Australia.

***Maratus plumosus***

Otto & Hill 2013

Maratus-like salticid Hill 2009 (Figures 26-27); *Maratus* sp. B Otto & Hill 2011b, 2012d; *Maratus plumosus* Otto & Hill 2013b; Whyte & Anderson 2017; Girard et al. 2021

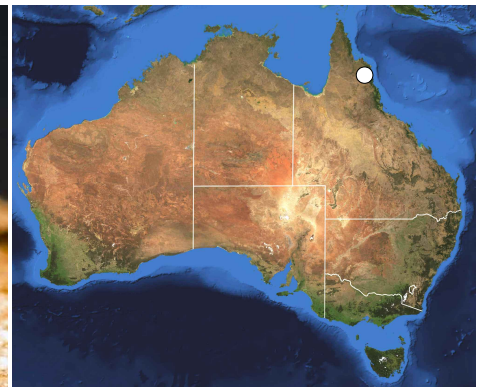
This species is widely distributed in southeastern Australia. Males display plumes of setae instead of spinnerets, first on one side and then on the other. The front of each femur III is bright blue. The southern form found in Victoria and Tasmania may represent a different species (Girard et al. 2021).

***Maratus sagittus***

Schubert & Whyte 2019

Maratus sagittus Schubert & Whyte 2019

This species, from the Cape York Peninsula of northern Queensland, is the only *Maratus* exclusively known from the tropics. The species name, *sagittus*, refers to the arrow-shaped pattern on the dorsal opisthosoma. Dull-red scales (not shown) are present on the front of the eye region. Photograph © Robert Whyte, used with permission.

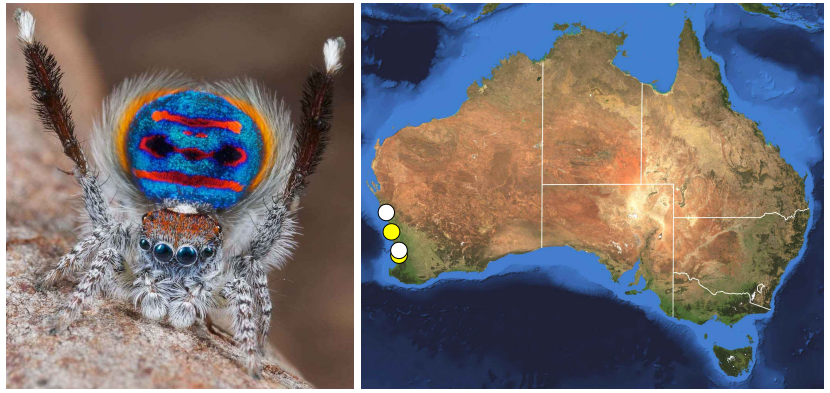


Maratus speciosus

(O. Pickard-Cambridge 1874)

Salticus (Attus) speciosus O. Pickard-Cambridge 1874; *Habrocestum speciosum* : Keyserling 1883; *Saitis speciosus* : Simon 1901a; Dunn 1947; Žabka 1991; Hill 2009, 2010; Hill & Otto 2011; *Maratus speciosus* : Otto & Hill 2012c, 2012e, 2015b; Hill & Otto 2014; Girard & Endler 2014; Hsiung et al. 2014; Baehr & Whyte 2016; Whyte & Anderson 2017; McCoy et al. 2019; Girard et al. 2021

Known as the *Coastal Peacock Spider*, this spider is common on plants in coastal sand dunes in the vicinity of Perth. Males have a fringe comprised of long, bicoloured setae around the fan.

**Use of the species group name *Maratus splendens* (Rainbow 1896)**

The recent paper on *Maratus* group phylogeny by Girard et al. (2021) included a single *taxonomic correction* (p. 7) related to the use of *M. rainbowi* (Roewer 1951), claiming that this usage was “in accordance with the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (1999),” but not citing a specific article in that code. According to section [23.9.5] of the ICZN, the prevailing use of the junior homonym (*Attus splendens*, now *M. splendens*) should be maintained since the junior and senior homonyms have not been “considered congeneric after 1899,” pending a ruling by the Commission. Several years ago we formally sought such a ruling from the Commission, but instead received mixed recommendations. The recommendation that we chose to follow, pending a future ruling by the Commission, was to continue to use the prevailing name, *M. splendens*, and to petition for suppression of the generally unused *M. rainbowi* at a later date when we can document a larger number of publications using that name. Already there are many of these publications, covering behavior, scale structure, and identification. It should be noted that published or posted species lists do not count toward the argument of usage. This approach is consistent with the stated objective of the ICZN, the stability of names.

Acknowledgements

We thank Maurice Allan, Carole Anderson, Jacqueline Anderson, Tim Andrews, Barbara Baehr, Michelle Barnes, Tessa Barratt, Jonas Bellschambers, Farhan Bokhari, Nick Burr, Chausino, Belinda Copland, David de Angelis, Diane Deans, Jordan de Jong, Michael Doe, John Douglas, Linda Downing, Alexander Dudley, Michael Duncan, Jason Dunlop, Dave Edmunds, G. B. Edwards, Damian Elias, Kristi Ellingson, Harley England, Norm Farmer, Ned Fisher, Adam Fletcher, Volker Framenau, Anja Friederichs, Tim Gamblin, Madeline Girard, Shane Graves, Stuart Harris, Mark Harvey, Marshal Hedin, Mark Helle, Anne Hobbie, Val Hogan, Fred Hort, Jean Hort, Anita Hotker, Glenn Hoyer, Mathew Hourston, Paul Irvine, Joan P. Jass, Bradley Jenner, Richard Jones, Iskander Kalliananda, Jade Kennedy, Eddie Aloise King, Beth Kinsey, Ron Kinsey, David Knowles, Allan Lance, Andrew Leo, Elan Lewinsohn, Laura Leibensperger, David Leviston, Jackie Lien, John Lizamore, Stephanie Lizamore, Iain Macaulay, Wayne Maddison, Karl Magnacca, Stephen Mahony, Chris Martinez, Kylie Jean McGenniskin, Oscar Mendez, Peter McHugh, Peter McQuillan, Graham Milledge, Charlotte Miller, Julie Morgan, Jeff Morley, Tali Moyle, Mark Newton, Jason O’Connell, Chris O’Toole, Jane Plant, Norman I. Platnick, Flynn Prall, Jerzy Prószyński, Michaela Purcell, Nicole Quittner, Tomas Rak, Helen Ransom, Robert Raven, Katie Read, David B. Richman, Michael Rix, Martyn Robinson, Peter Robinson, Christine Rollard, Bob Rogers, Tim Rudman, Donna Sanders, Laurence Sanders, Michael

Sanders, Thomas Sayers, Joseph Schubert, Kai Schütte, Owen Seeman, June Shields, Kevin Shields, Helen Smith, Kerry Stuart, Geoff Urbas, Monique Urbas, Nick Volpe, Julianne Waldock, Robert Whyte, Jacqui Wilson, Graham Wise, Marek Żabka and Junxia Zhang for their important contributions to our study of peacock spiders in recent years. We also would like to acknowledge the Australian Capital Territory Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate, the Brisbane City Council, the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, South Australia, the Department of Parks and Wildlife, Western Australia, the Ku-ring-gai Wildflower Garden, the New South Wales Department of Industry, the New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service, and Water New South Wales. Without their support the collection and documentation of many species would not have been possible. Unless otherwise credited all photographs are copyright © Jurgen C. Otto. Range maps are based on a satellite image supplied by the NASA Visible Earth project.

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