

“Knight” out with Larinia Spider

Larinia are small, 3.5.-6.5mm, nocturnal spiders, they can be found in their orb-webs in long grass. In India they are also called Indian rice orb-Spider. The webs are wove at night and removed again at first light next morning. The abdomen varies from oval to elongated, always longer than wide often marked with longitudinal dorsal stripes or bands. Larinia sp. can be found on all over Indian sub- continents. The web of this species spider is not a nice circular web, it seems to be rather haphazard, it almost looks somewhere broken.



During this night out my focus had always been on the predatory nature of this spider. All photos taken at night time were done, using external flash and my homemade flash diffuser.



*** Different view of Indian rice orb-Spider

The greatest challenge to me for night macro photography is the requirement to hold the torch light with one hand, while trying to focus and take the shot with the other hand. To reduce this problem I take necessary arrangement like setting up an external LED light panel on the diffuser for focusing on the subject. It is recommended to switch to manual control on the flash power output. Adjust the flash power output according to the camera settings to create the right condition for photography. In the case of night macro photography, it is suggested to use proper dedicated macro lenses (above 60mm) on the other than Rynox , macro close up lens or external tube because of the working distance, **(It's the distance between the front of your lens and the nearest subject)** shorter working distance means, your hand have to reach more close to subject, it's very risky at night .





**** Hunting Skill of Larinia sp.**





Finally macro photography at night is really a great fun and super exciting. While most of these insects are harmless, there are also certain amount of chances of danger of being bitten by insects especially when macro photography require photographing at close proximity of selected species that are nocturnal.

While searching for insects among the bushes with the torch light, I always prefer to use Head Search Light. There are a few safety precautions that are very important. Always wear Gum Boot like covered shoes because there is every possibility that you are bitten by a nocturnal snake, like Kalach/ Common krait (*Bungarus caeruleus*) or other venomous vipers like Russell's viper & saw-scaled viper. So, move slowly and watch where you step and move.



Essential Equipment /Safety Gear for Night Macro Photography:

1. LED LIGHT PANEL ATTACHED FLASH DIFFUSER 2. GUM BOOT 3. HEAD LAMP

ARUNAVA DEY,

AFIAP, EFIP, Hon. PESGSPC, GPA. PESGSPC

Freelance Macro Photographer

City:Berhampore, Dist:Murshidabad

State:West Bengal, INDIA

Gmail - arunavadey.macrophoto@gmail.com