the weight of unimodal signals suggest different selection pressures on the relative importance of signal modalities or on the sensory systems of each sex.

Origin and diversification of free-living stick spiders of Sri Lanka including the description of four new species of *Rhomphaea* L. Koch, 1872 and two new species of *Neospintharus* Exline, 1950

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We investigated the origin and diversification of Sri Lankan species of *Rhomphaea* and *Neospintharus* representing two recognized genera of Argyrodinae free-living stick spiders, using sequences of three genes: mitochondrial cytochrome oxidase I (COI) and 16S rRNA (16S); and nuclear 28S rRNA (28S). Our phylogeny included 32 taxa (30 ingroup and 2 outgroup). We used Bayesian and Maximum likelihood methods to reconstruct the placement of species, divergent times and their foraging behaviour. The phylogeny strongly congruent with previous studies and offer further support for the monophyly of the Argyrodinae as well as the monophyly of *Rhomphaea* and *Neospintharus*, where *Rhomphaea* is sister to *Neospintharus*. The following new species will be described in future publications: *Rhomphaea* sp *A*, *Rhomphaea* sp *B*, *Rhomphaea* sp *C Rhomphaea* sp *D*, *Neospintharus* sp *A* and *Neospintharus* sp *B*.

## Out of Sight Out of Mind: Assessing the Role of Vision in Venom Metering in the Southern Unstriped Scorpion (*Vaejovis carolinianus*)

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Venom metering occurs when organisms regulate the use of this metabolically and ecologically expensive resource. Research indicates that various environmental factors affect venom use: prey type, prey struggle, and perceived threat of potential predators. Scorpions have sophisticated sensory modalities, but only a handful of studies have attempted to relate these senses to venom metering. We investigated the role of vision in venom metering using adult *Vaejovis carolinianus* (N = 36) scorpions in a randomized, repeated measures design. Vision was reversibly ablated with watercolor paint. We elicited venom use by prodding the scorpions with a parafilm covered loop and expelled venom was collected and quantified using a microliter capillary tube. We found that vision may affect venom use, with blind scorpions stinging more