

Newspaper Reports on Research and Innovation Activities

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Newspaper reports on Research and Innovation activities

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Christ college researcher won the research award of Department of Science and technology for the research on ‘the transformation for memories in the Hippocampus of the brain of Mammals’.

Mathrubhumi

Dated:

23-02-2021

Description

Christ college researchers from Department of Physics has won laurels at the Metamaterial-2019 international conference held in Rome. 8 research papers out of 11 from India were presented by the Christ college team.

Zoology

Dr. R.Binu

Reserch/ Research award



Christ College Researchers Invented a Green Method to Dry Ethanol Mathrubhumi
Dated: 23-02-2021

Description

Christ college researchers from Department of Chemistry have invented an eco - friendly and cost-efficient method to remove water from ethanol and other organic solvents. A patent application has also been filed for the invention.

CHEMISTRY

Dr. V.T.Joy

INNOVATION/ Green method to dry ethanol.

Now, a green method to dry ethanol

Rajeev.KR@timesgroup.com

Kozhikode: In what could provide a boost to the biofuel production in the country, researchers from Christ College, Irinjalakuda, have invented an eco-friendly and cost-efficient method to remove water from ethanol and other organic solvents.

Researchers say the energy-efficient method could bring down the prices of ethanol production because now a significant cost involved in fuel ethanol production is for removing water from ethanol to make it 100% pure.

The research team from the chemistry department of Christ College led by V T Joy, assistant professor and head of the department, and two students, Gopika KN and Jesiya Joy, have invented a novel process for drying ethanol.

Joy said the method uses an adsorbent that selectively absorbs water efficiently, producing almost 100% ethanol.

BOOST IN BIOFUEL PRODUCTION

> **Energy-efficient method developed by a team of Christ College** could bring down prices of ethanol production

> **The method uses an adsorbent that selectively**



absorbs water efficiently, producing almost 100% ethanol

> **The material used for**

absorbing water is inexpensive and environmentally friendly

> **This could provide a boost to the biofuel production in the country**

A patent application has been filed for the invention which works with many other organic solvents such as diethyl ether, acetone, toluene and other alcohols.

He said the main advantage of the new method is that material used for absorbing water is inexpensive and environmentally friendly, and material after water absorption can be regenerated by heating.

Unlike gasoline, pure ethanol is nontoxic and biodegradable and ethanol-gasoline mixtures burn cleaner. But to

be used as a fuel and for blending with gasoline the ethanol needs to be scrupulously dry (~99.5% or more) and this final process of drying up the alcohol has been energy intensive and expensive.

Bio ethanol can be produced by fermentation of sugar or starch from feedstocks, including sugar cane, corn grains, agricultural wastes, forestry wastes, municipal wastes and livestock manure. In India, ethanol production is mainly produced using sugarcane molasses, a byproduct of sugar manufacturing in India

Joy said currently four major methods are used in industry for drying alcohol: extractive distillation, azeotropic distillation, adsorption with molecular sieves and membrane vapour permeation. But all these methods have the drawbacks of high cost of raw materials and energy-intensive processes.

He said though there are other methods for removing water from organic solvents using chemicals, they are also plagued with limitations such as production of chemical waste, use of expensive or hazardous substances and longer process times.

"Our invention will be a significant step forward towards achieving a CO₂ neutral fuel economy and towards achieving energy independence. Since ethanol can be produced and dried locally using this method, huge costs towards transportation of fuels currently incurred can be avoided," Joy said.

Christ College Researchers Invented a Green Method to Dry Ethanol

Times of India Dated:

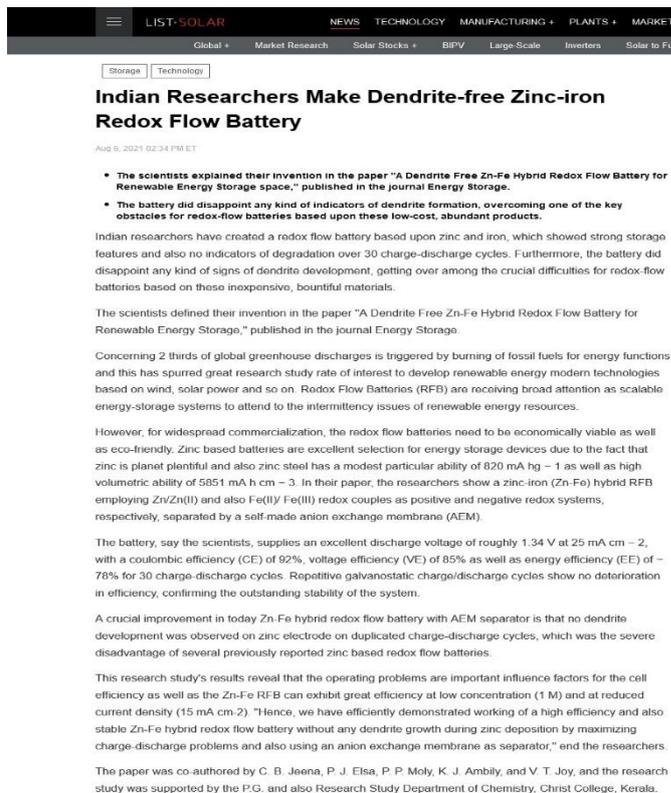
Description

Christ college researchers from Department of Chemistry have invented an eco-friendly and cost-efficient method to remove water from ethanol and other organic solvents. A patent application has also been filed for the invention.

CHEMISTRY

Dr. V.T.Joy

INNOVATION/ Green method to dry ethanol.



Christ college researchers develop a Dendrite-Free Zinc-Iron Redox Flow Battery

LIST.SOLAR (Online)

Dated: 06-08-2021

Description

Christ college researchers from Department of Chemistry has developed a Dendrite-Free Zinc-Iron Redox Flow Battery. The paper titled 'A Dendrite-Free Zn-Fe Hybrid Redox Flow Battery for Renewable Energy Storage' was published in the Energy Storage journal.

CHEMISTRY

Dr. V.T.Joy

INNOVATION/ Dendrite-Free Zinc-Iron Redox Flow Battery



Christ college researchers discovered a special dragonfly named “Sindhoorathumbi” with an intertwined male and female cells

Mathrubhumi Dated: 09-12-2021

Description

Christ college researchers from Department of Environmental Science discovered a special dragonfly named “Sindhoorathumbi” with an intertwined male and female cells.

Environmental Science

Dr. Subin k. Jose

NEW SPECIES/“Sindhoorathumbi”



Christ College Researchers won laurels at the Metamaterial-2019 international conference held in Rome.

The Indian Express Dated:

23-09-2019

Description

Christ college researchers from Department of Physics has won laurels at the Metamaterial-2019 international conference held in Rome. 8 research papers out of 11 from India were presented by the Christ college team.

Physics

Dr. V.P.Joseph

Reserch/ Metamaterial-2019



Christ college researchers won laurels at the Metamaterial-2019 international conference held in Rome

Malayala Manorama Dated: 21-09-2019

Description

Christ college researchers from Department of Physics has won laurels at the Metamaterial-2019 international conference held in Rome. 8 research papers out of 11 from India were presented by the Christ college team.

Physics

Dr. V.P.Joseph

Reserch/ Metamaterial-2019



Christ college researchers discovered six new species of Cuckoo wasps (Family: Chrisrididae)

Mathrubhumi Dated: 23-02-2021

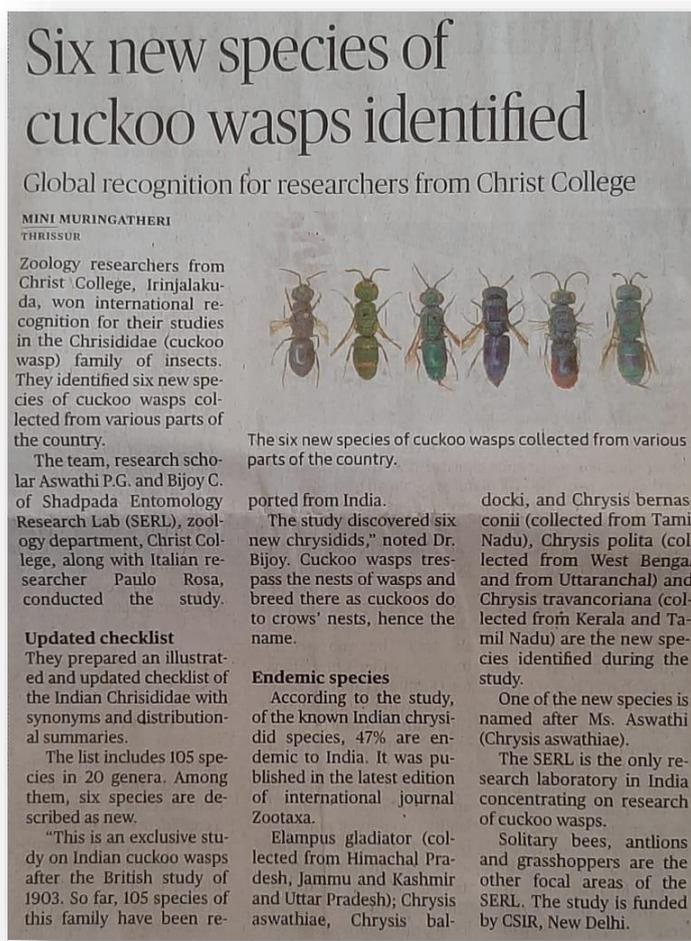
Description

Six new species of Cuckoo wasps (Family: Chrisrididae) was discovered by researchers of Christ College. The findings were published in Zootaxa

Zoology

Shadpada Entomology Research Lab/Dr. Bijoy. C

New Species



Christ college researchers discovered six new species of Cuckoo wasps (Family: Chrisididae)

**Hindu Dated:
01-03-2021**

Description

Six new species of Cuckoo wasps (Family: Chrisididae) was discovered by researchers of Christ College. The findings were published in Zootaxa

Zoology

Shadpada Entomology Research Lab/Dr. Bijoy. C

New Species



Christ College Researchers Discovered a New Species of Green Delicate lacewing (Neuroptera: Chrysopidae) from Kerala

Mathrubhumi Dated: 28-05-2021

Description

One new species of Green delicate lacewing (Neuroptera: Chrysopidae) was discovered by researchers of Christ College. The findings were published in Zootaxa.

Zoology

Shadpada Entomology Research Lab/Dr. Bijoy. C

New Species

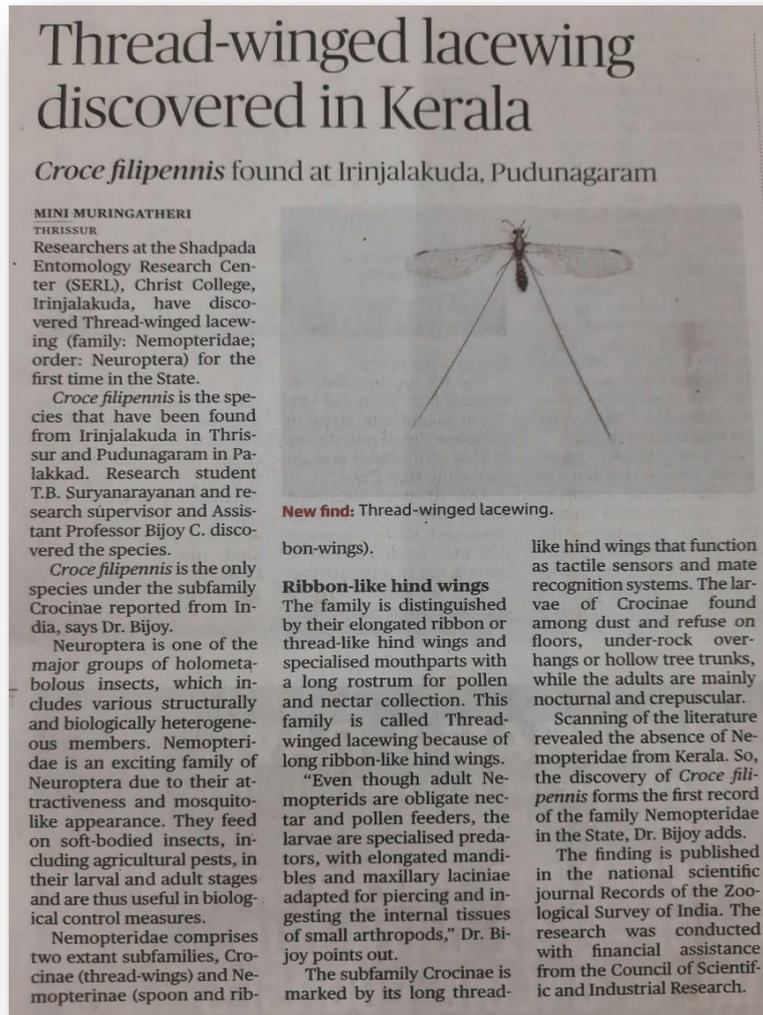


Christ college researchers discovered a Thread-winged lacewing (Neuroptera: Nemopteridae) from Kerala

Mathrubhumi Dated:
07-08-2021

Description

Thread-winged lacewing (Neuroptera: Nemopteridae) was discovered from Kerala by researchers of Christ College. The findings were published in Records of Zoological Survey of India.



Christ college researchers discovered a Thread-winged lacewing (Neuroptera: Nemopteridae) from Kerala

**Hindu Dated:
07-08-2021**

Description

Thread-winged lacewing (Neuroptera: Nemopteridae) was discovered from Kerala by researchers of Christ College. The findings were published in Records of Zoological Survey of India.

Zoology

Shadpada Entomology Research Lab/Dr. Bijoy. C

New Reports of species



Christ college researchers discovered a rare Mantid lacewing (Neuroptera: Mantispidae) from Kerala

**Mathrubhumi Dated:
29-08-2021**

Description

A rare Mantid lacewing (Neuroptera: Mantispidae) was discovered from Kerala by researchers of Christ College. The findings were published in Journal of Threatened Taxa.

Zoology Shadpada Entomology Research Lab/Dr. Bijoy. C New Reports of species

Rare Mantid lacewing species found in Kerala

Christ College researchers find *Mantispilla indica* in parts of Thrissur

MINI MURINGATHERI
THRISSUR

Researchers of Christ College, Irinjalakuda, have found a rare species of Mantid lacewing for the first time in Kerala.

The species, *Mantispilla indica* (Westwood), was found by the research team of the Shadpada Entomology Research Lab of Christ College from Mulangunnathukavu and Irinjalakuda areas of Thrissur district.

The discovery by research student Suryanarayanan T.B. and Assistant Professor Bijoy C. has been published in the latest issue of *Journal of Threatened Taxa*, a national scientific journal.

This tiny (10 mm) insect belongs to the family Mantispidae of order Neuroptera, represented by four subfami-



Mantispilla indica spotted in Kerala for first time.

lies and 410 species worldwide, of which only 17 species, representing a single subfamily Mantispinae, are known so far from India.

"They are commonly called Mantispids or Mantid lacewings due to the morphological resemblance with praying mantis of order Mantodea in their raptorial fore-

legs. They are distinguished by their net-like wings. The taxonomy of this group is least studied either due to the short lifespan of adults or due to their very low population density," said Dr. Bijoy.

The first instar larvae of Mantid lacewings are parasites of spiders and have a

complicated development called hypermetamorphosis.

Funded by CSIR
As per published literature, this is the third species reported from Kerala after *Eucimacia nodosa* (Westwood) and *Mantispa cora* Newman. *Mantispilla indica* is characterised by a black antenna except for two basal segments. The research was funded by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

The same research team had found Thread-winged lacewing (family: Nemopteridae, order: Neuroptera) in State sometime ago. *Croce filipennis* was the species found in Irinjalakuda in Thrissur district and Pudukottai in Palakkad.

Christ college researchers discovered a rare Mantid lacewing (Neuroptera: Mantispidae) from Kerala

Hindu Dated:

30-08-2021

Description

A rare Mantid lacewing (Neuroptera: Mantispidae) was discovered from Kerala by researchers of Christ College. The findings were published in Journal of Threatened Taxa.

Zoology

Shadpada Entomology Research Lab/Dr. Bijoy. C

New Reports of species



Christ College Researchers Rediscovered a Rare Vanishing Delicate lacewing (Neuroptera: Chrysopidae) from Kerala after 128 Years Mathrubhumi dated: 03-11-2021

Description

A rare vanishing delicate lacewing (Neuroptera: Chrysopidae) was discovered from Kerala after 128 years by researchers of Christ College. The findings were published in Entomon.

Zoology Shadpada Entomology Research Lab/Dr. Bijoy. C New Reports of species



Christ College Researchers Discovered a Rare Vanishing Delicate lacewing (Neuroptera: Chrysopidae) from Kerala after 128 years

Hindu Dated:

05-11-2021

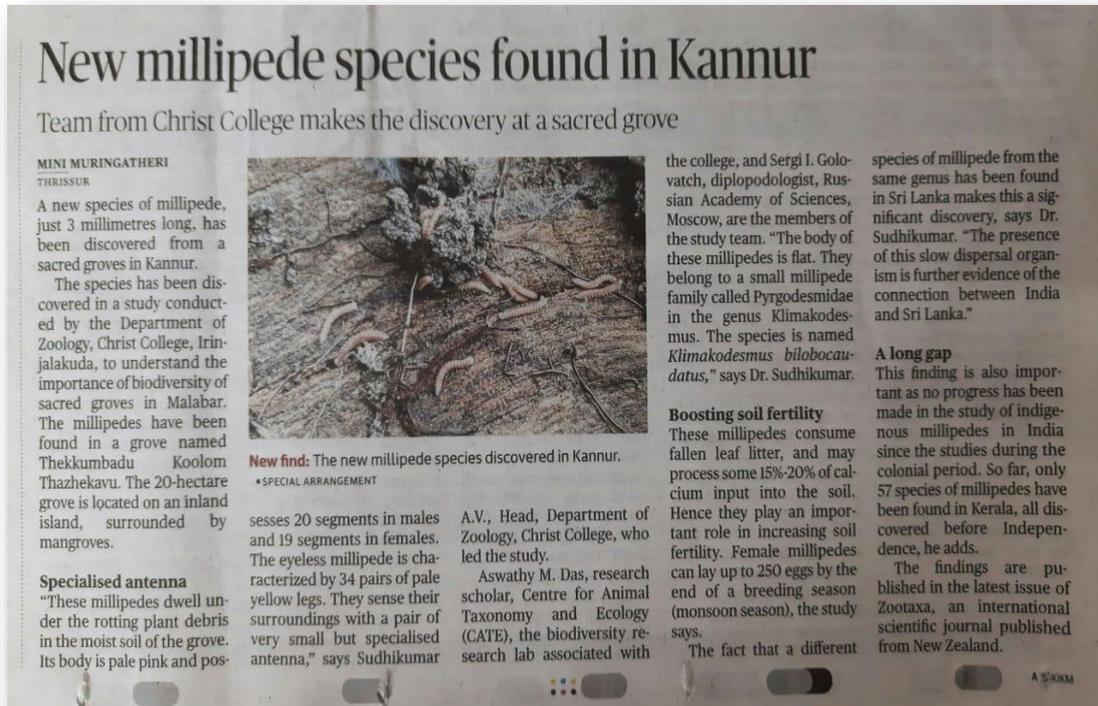
Description

A rare vanishing delicate lacewing (Neuroptera: Chrysopidae) was discovered from Kerala after 128 years by researchers of Christ College. The findings were published in Entomon.

Zoology

Shadpada Entomology Research Lab/Dr. Bijoy. C

New Reports of species



Christ College Researchers Identified New Species of Millipede

The Hindu Dated:

06-06-2021

Description

New species of millipede was identified by researchers of Christ College. The findings were published in Zootaxa

Zoology

CATE

New Species

Calicut University campus a haven for jumping spiders

Spider diversity and density are directly related to structural complexity of environment

MINI MURINGATHERI
THRISSUR

The vast campus of Calicut University is a haven for a large diversity of jumping spiders, according to a recent study.

A ten-month-long study conducted on the lush green campus found 46 species of jumping spiders coming under 33 genera. It is for the first time in the country that the presence of such a variety of jumping spiders was detected from a particular area, say scientists.

According to them, spider diversity and density are directly related to the structural complexity of the environment. Highly varied habitats provide a greater array of microhabitats, micro-climatic features, alternative food sources, and retreat sites, all of which encourage colonisation and establishment of spiders.

The study was conducted by Athira Jose, research scholar in Zoology under the leadership of E. Pushpa-

latha, Head of the Zoology Department, University of Calicut, and Dr. Sudhikumar A.V., Centre for Animal Taxonomy and Ecology (CATE), Christ College, Irinjalakuda.

This study was funded by the University Grants Commission (UGC) as Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) to Athira for the project entitled 'DNA barcoding of jumping spiders of Kerala'. Findings of this study appeared in the latest volume of *Serket*, an international scientific journal published from Egypt.

Eight eyes
These non-web builders usually capture their prey by a sudden jump over it, so these are known as jumping spiders. These spiders possess eight eyes in three rows. The last pair is located on the back of their head that enables vision of back side without having to turn their head. The big pair of eyes at the central position of the first row helps recognise these spiders in the field. These eyes help them to judge the distance to prey and also facilitate accurate jump. Its exceptional eyesight enables it to prowl round the clock.

Colourful males
Body of male individuals possess attractive colour pattern. They attract females for mating by their specific dancing act by the characteristic movement of legs and abdomen, which is known as nuptial dance.

Since many members of the family mimic venomous wasps, it is very helpful to escape from enemies. Family Salticidae is the biggest spider family in diversity and there are 6,175 varieties of jumping spiders under 644 genera so far reported from all over the world.

The study was conducted in 500 acres of Calicut University campus, which is rich in acacia trees, teak plantations, mango orchards, scrub jungles, and grasslands.

The study reported the presence of a pirate spider named *Portia* (moustached spider), which intrudes into the web of other spiders and feed on the owner of the web. Multi-coloured peacock spider (*Chryssilla*), minute dark jumper (*Harmochirus*), crescent spider (*Hasarius*), scorpion spider (*Indopadilla*), red ant mimicking spider (*Myrmaplata*), red eyed spider (*Phidippus*), fly catcher (*Plexippus*), fly mimicking spider (*Phintella*), yellow wasp spider (*Rhene*), and rusty headed spider (*Tamigalesus*) are the other important spiders reported from the campus during this study, according to Dr. Sudhikumar.



1) *Chryssilla volupe*, 2) *Harmochirus brachiatus*, 3) *Hasarius adansoni*, 4) *Indopadilla insularis*, 5) *Myrmaplata plateleoides*, 6) *Phidippus yashodharae*, 7) *Plexippus petersi*, 8) *Phintella vittata*, 9) *Rhene flavicomans*, 10) *Tamigalesus munnaricus*, 11) *Portia labiata*, 12) *Asemonea tenuipes*.

Christ College Researchers Identified Rare Species of Spiders

The Hindu Dated:

20-11-2020

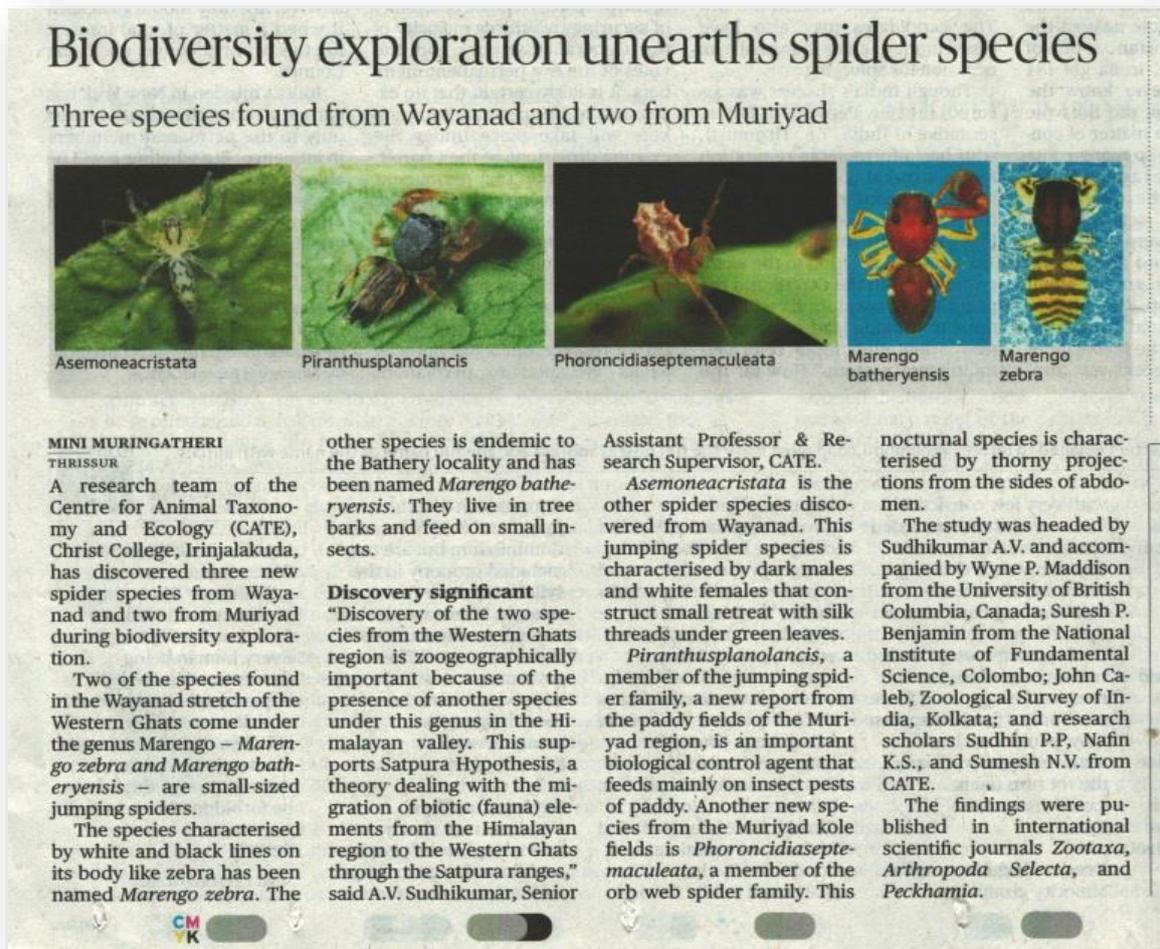
Description

Rare species of spiders were identified by researchers of Christ College. The findings were published in *Serket*

Zoology

CATE

Rare Species



Christ college researchers identified new species of spiders

The Hindu dated:

03-07-2020

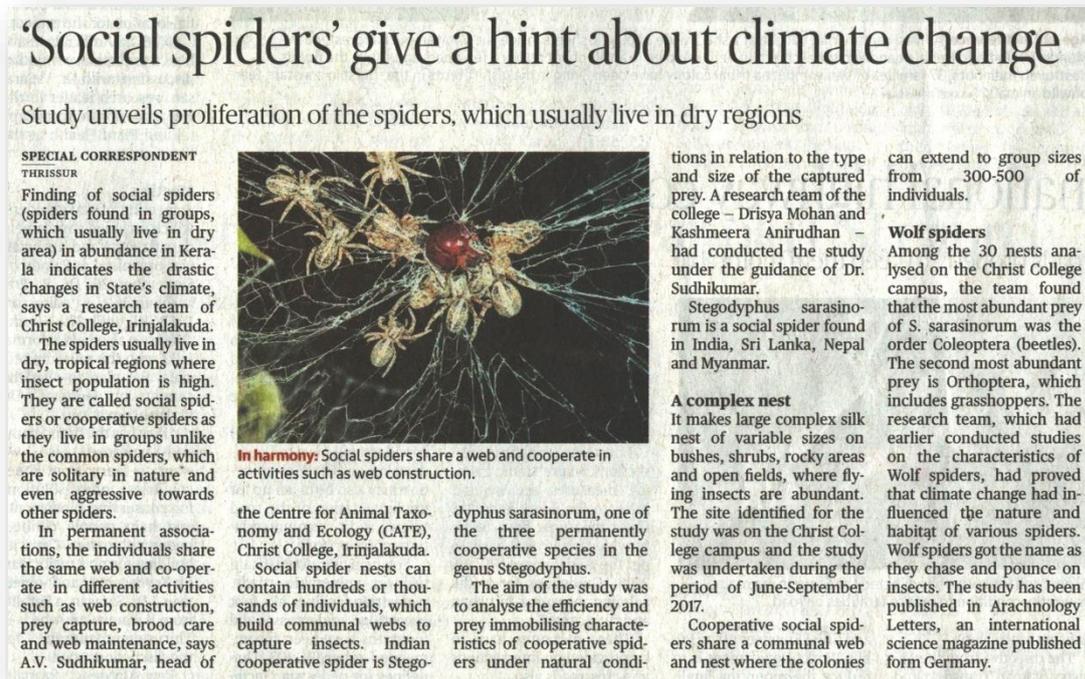
Description

New species of spiders were identified by researchers of Christ College. The findings were published in *Arthropoda selecta*

Zoology

CATE

New Species



Christ College Researchers Identified Impact of Climate Change of Spider Abundance

The Hindu Dated:
30-09-2019

Description

Impact of climate change of spider abundance was identified by researchers of Christ College. The findings were published in Arachnology Letters

Zoology

CATE

Abundance