

ground spider

Sergiolus ocellatus

Kingdom: Animalia
Phylum: Arthropoda
Class: Arachnida
Order: Araneae
Family: Gnaphosidae

ILLINOIS STATUS

common, native

FEATURES

The stealthy ground spiders are small, usually less than one-half inch in length. There are more than 2,000 species recognized in this family. The anterior spinnerets are cylindrical and extend beyond the end of the abdomen. The abdomen is dark with a pattern of white banding. The cephalothorax is red-brown.

BEHAVIORS

The stealthy ground spiders are active at night and hide during the day in such places as under rocks, under logs and in leaf litter. These predators run down their prey instead of catching it in a web.

ILLINOIS RANGE





male

Aquatic Habitats

none

Woodland Habitats

upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairies, dolomite prairie, edge, gravel prairie, hill prairie, sand prairie, shrub prairie