

About Hersiliidae Thorell, 1870 (Arachnida, Araneae) in Iran

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Hersiliidae (Arachnida, Araneae) is a small family consisting of 176 species and 15 genera, which due to their prominently long posterior lateral spinnerets are commonly known as two-tailed spiders. Most species are found in tropical/subtropical regions of the world, and their range rarely extends 40°N. The study of Hersiliidae in Iran is very recent: the first documentation of them was made by Marusik and Fet in 2009, when they described two new species from Iran, *Hersiliola foordi* and *Duninia rheimsae*, which the latter was based on the basis of the female sex only. Later in 2013, Mirshamsi et al. reported *H. sternbergi* Marusik & Fet and *D. baehrae* Marusik & Fet, 2009 from Iran for the first time and provided the description of a new species, *D. darvishi* Mirshamsi & Marusik. In our current study, we provide data on the discovery of a new genus and its new species from southeastern Iran, and two other new species of *Hersiliola* and *Hersilia*, from Islands of Persian Gulf. As a result, the number of Iranian genera and species are increased to four and eight, respectively, which is the highest species diversity of this taxon in the Palaearctic.

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