

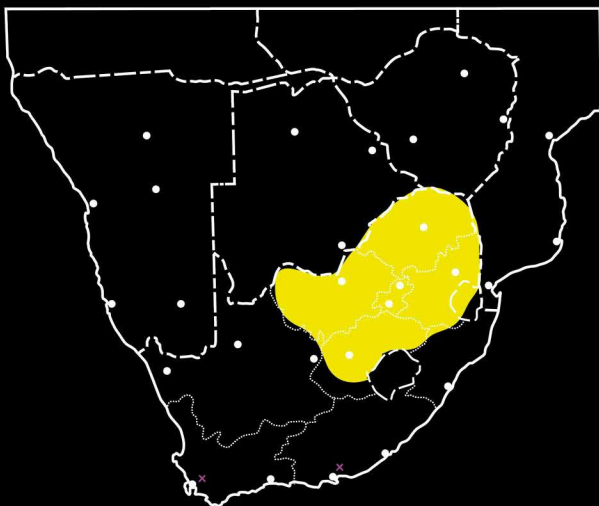


MILDLY VENOMOUS

## Plain Pygmy-thicktail (*Pseudolychas ochraceus*)



Maximum size  
4.5 cm



A small scorpion of under 4.5 cm with the tail extended. This species is usually dark grey to brown with lighter legs, tail and pincers. In some parts of its range, it is an all-female population and reproduces via parthenogenesis.

It is probably the most commonly encountered scorpion in houses in Gauteng. It occurs north into Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North-west and south into the Free State. It also occurs in eSwatini. This common species occurs under debris such as logs, leaves and rocks. It may play dead if disturbed. The venom is of little consequence to humans and stings, although painful, are not medically important.



Luke Kemp