

Harmless



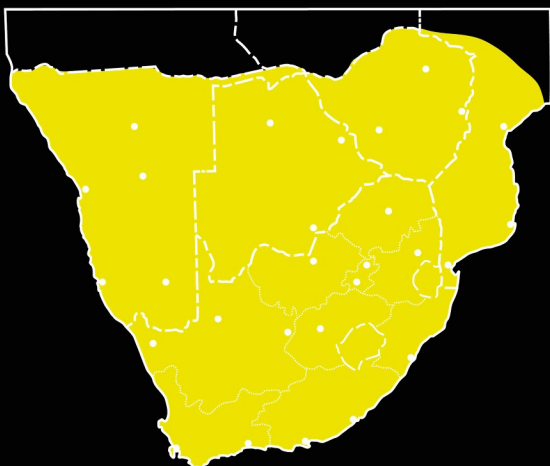
Trapdoor Spider

(*Stasimopus sp.*)



Maximum size
10 - 30 mm

Southern Africa is home to a wide variety of Trapdoor Spiders, a group of old-world arachnids closely related to Baboon Spiders. Typically glossy black or brown, they have robust, pointed legs and a large cephalothorax equipped with prominent fangs capable of delivering a painful bite. While females tend to be stocky, males are elongate and slender. These spiders live underground, constructing burrows lined with silk and sealed with a distinctive disc-like lid. During the breeding season, males emerge to search for females in their burrows, making them more visible and often leading them to accidentally fall into swimming pools.



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