

## ground spider *Sergiolus capulatus*

Kingdom: Animalia

Division/Phylum: Arthropoda

Class: Arachnida

Order: Araneae

Family: Gnaphosidae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

### FEATURES

Sometimes known as the variegated spider, the male's total body length is close to one-fourth inch while the female's total body length ranges from one-fourth to slightly less than one-half inch. The cephalothorax and section of each leg closest to the body are orange. The abdomen is black with white bands.

### BEHAVIORS

Males are active from February through November. Females are present from May through November. Because of its distinctive coloration, this species may be a mimic of velvet ants which are really wasps that can sting.

### HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

none

Woodland Habitats

deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

black soil prairie; edge; hill prairie; shrub prairie

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