

# 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