

**NOCTURNAL ACTIVITY UNDER ARTIFICIAL LIGHTS BY THE JUMPING SPIDER *SITTICUS FASCIGER*.**

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Salticids are considered to be diurnal wanderers, searching for and jumping on prey in "broad daylight" (Kaston, B. J. 1948. Bull. Conn. Geol. Natur. Hist. Surv. 70: 1-874). Some species have been reported to "remain in these shelters (retreats) throughout the night" (Hill, D. E. 1978. Peckhamia 1: 63-70). This note reports nocturnal activity under artificial lights by jumping spiders. On July 24, 1978, several hours after sunset, a mature female *Sitticus fasciger* (Simon) was collected from the outside of a window of a small greenhouse which had several lights on inside. The greenhouse is behind Case High Schools, two miles west of the city of Racine, Racine County, Wisconsin. The spider was feeding on a midge and was actively moving about. Over the next month, at least fifteen observations were made on other *S. fasciger*, including another female and a male. These were seen on the inside of the panes of glass or on the metal ledge just below. Although the insects were most abundant outside the greenhouse, there were many inside due to an open vent. This led to several observations of the spiders stalking and pouncing on prey even though the prey were on the other side of the glass. The insects often did not seem to notice, even though the salticids made several futile attempts. It is expected that many more reports will be made of visually oriented spiders using artificial illumination to seek prey. This is a natural consequence of the large amount of prey available to predators under these artificial conditions.