

Variable	Description
ID	A unique identifier for each media report. Note that the ID can be repeated when a news item includes multiple species or events.
URL	The link to the online media report. Because this was collected at the time of data mining, some URLs may not be working anymore.
Language	The language in which the media report is written.
Country_search	The country where the newspaper is published / where the search was conducted.
Newspaper	The newspaper in which the media report is published.
Type_of_newspaper	A generic description of the type of Newspaper . Levels: “Traditional newspaper” (Official newspaper in expert’s country, with both a printed and an online version), “Online newspaper” (online-only newspapers), or “Magazine” (for magazine, tabloids, etc.).
Circulation	The circulation of the Newspaper . Levels: “Regional”, “National”, “International”.
d m y	day , month , and year of publication of the media report.
Title	Article title (in the original language).
ID_Event	A unique ID for the human-spider encounter described in the media report, constructed by combining the Country_event , Location_event , and Year_event . An ID_Event can be repeated through the database when the same event was taken up by multiple newspapers.
Year_event	The year in which the ID_Event took place.
Location_event	The location (name of city/town/region) in which the ID_Event took place.
Country_event	The country in which the ID_Event described in the media report took place.
Continent	Continent in which the ID_Event described in the media report took place.
lon lat	Coordinates (longitude , latitude) of the Location_event in decimal degrees (WGS84 reference system) (e.g., 7.47; 44.72). These were derived with Google Maps / Google Earth.
lon2 lat2	Coordinates (longitude , latitude) of the Country_event in decimal degrees (WGS84 reference system) (e.g., 7.47; 44.72). These were derived with Google Maps / Google Earth.
lon3 lat3	Coordinates (longitude , latitude) of the Country_search in decimal degrees (WGS84 reference system) (e.g., 7.47; 44.72). These were derived with Google Maps / Google Earth.
Species	The scientific name of the spider species involved in the ID_Event , as reported in the news item. If the species is not mentioned and/or impossible to infer from the text and figures, the notation “Gen sp” is used.
Genus	The genus of the spider involved in the ID_Event .

Family	The family of the spider involved in the ID_Event .
Order	The order “Araneae” (to which all spiders belong) is used unless the media report incorrectly assigned other organisms as spiders (e.g., harvestmen, camel spiders, insects).
Bite	Does the human-spider encounter result in a bite? 1 = yes; 0 = no.
Death	Does the human-spider encounter result in a deadly bite? 1 = yes; 0 = no.
Figure_species	Does the media report contain a photograph (or video content) of a spider species? 1 = yes; 0 = no.
Figure_bite	Does the media report contain a photograph (or video content) of a spider bite? 1 = yes; 0 = no.
Expert_arachnologist	Was an expert consulted/capable of identifying the spider involved in the ID_Event (arachnologist, entomologist, taxonomist, etc.)? 1 = yes; 0 = no.
Expert_doctor	Was a medical doctor or other similar medical professional consulted in the media report? 1 = yes; 0 = no.
Expert_others	Was any other ‘expert’ consulted in the news (e.g., a pest controller)? 1 = yes; 0 = no.
Sensationalism	Is the media report sensationalistic/overstated? 1 = yes; 0 = no.
Taxonomic_error	Does the article contain any taxonomic error? 1 = yes; 0 = no.
Venom_error	Does the article contain any error related to spider venom? 1 = yes; 0 = no.
Anatomy_error	Does the article contain any error related to the anatomy of spiders? 1 = yes; 0 = no.
Photo_error	Does the article contain any error in the photographs (or video content)? 1 = yes; 0 = no. Note that we used ‘NA’ if there was no photo present.
Quality_check	Was the article re-assessed (see section “ <i>Data accuracy and curation</i> ”)? Levels: “yes”, “yes*” (when a new entry was added as a result of the re-assessment), and “no”.
Contributor	The researcher(s) who collected the data associated with the specific media report.
Notes	Any other information related to the media report.