

PARENTAL CARE IN GOLDEN ORB WEB SPIDER *NEPHILA PILIPES*

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ABSTRACT : Parental care is an inborn and instinctive behavior. Many species of animals build nests for the safe deposition and protection of eggs. Since the year 2001, we continuously observing *Nephila pilipes* in different areas of Sihora. This spider comes in September-October and disappeared in December-January. We tried to found spiders eggs in 2011-12, but we were unable to find them. In 2013 we kept eight female spiders in two aquarium and we observed the nest building process for the protection of eggs. Female spider first makes a pit, and then spreads a sheet of web silk material on pit. After that she lays eggs and again spreads a sheet above the egg sac. Mother spider not only makes the nest but she also concealed it by spreading clay or soil on it. No one can recognize the place where she laid the eggs. The developing embryos are protected in to this web silk egg sac below the soil or clay. Young spiders come in September-October.

Key words : *Nephila pilipes, Egg laying, Pit, Parental care.*