

front; four other eyes are placed in a transverse direction towards the mouth; the other two are nearer the back: it has two antennæ, or feelers. It is a native of Italy, Cyprus, Barbary and the East Indies. It lives in bare fields, where the lands are fallow, but not very hard; and from its antipathy to damp and shade, chuses for its residence the rising part of the ground facing the east. Its dwelling is about four inches deep and half an inch wide; at the bottom it is curved, and there the insect sits in wet weather, and cuts its way out if water gain upon it. It waves a net at the mouth of the hole. These spiders do not live quite a year: in July they shed their skin, and proceed to propagation; which, from mutual distrust, as they frequently devour one another, is a work undertaken with great circumspection. They lay about seven hundred and thirty eggs, which are hatched in the spring; but the parent does not live to see her progeny, having expired early in the winter. The ichneumon fly is their most formidable enemy.

The bite of the tarantula is said to occasion an inflammation in the part, which in a few hours brings on sickness, difficulty of breathing, and universal faintness; the person is afterwards afflicted