

**3-1-2. Fine Structural Analyses of the Venom Gland in the Funnel Web
Spider, *Agelena limbata***

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The fine structure and chemical characteristics of the venom-secreting organ in the funnel web spider, *Agelena limbata* were studied using electron microscope. The funnel web spider, *Agelena limbata* possess a pair of poison glands located in the prosoma. Each poison gland consists of a long cylindrical part and an adjoining duct, which terminates at the tip of the cheliceral fang. The chelicera consists of two parts, a stout basal part and a movable fang and both sides of the cheliceral groove are armed with three pairs of the teeth. The cylindrical glands are surrounded by a thick muscular layer, which is separated from the inner glandular epithelium by a compact collagenous sheet. The venom secreting epithelium composed of long interdigitating cells running perpendicular to the muscular sheath and extending into the central lumen of the gland. The venom granules that have various electron density were scattered in the cytoplasm of the venom secreting epithelial cells.