



## First record of the scorpion genus *Chactopsis* Kraepelin in Colombia, with the description of *Chactopsis carolinae* sp. nov. (Scorpiones: Chactidae)

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### Abstract

*Chactopsis carolinae* sp. nov. is described on the basis of specimens of both sexes from Selva de Matavén, eastern Colombia. This species seems to be most closely related to *Chactopsis anduzei* González-Sponga from Venezuela and Brazil, based on the trichobothrial number and general arrangement. The new species, which is the first of the genus to be known from Colombia, raises to ten the number of known species of *Chactopsis*.

**Key words:** Scorpions, *Chactopsis*, new species, Colombia, Vichada

### Introduction

The genus *Chactopsis* Kraepelin is a group of scorpions with controversial phylogenetic placement (Prendini & Wheeler 2005). Even though it had long been traditionally grouped with all other Neotropical chactoid genera in the family Chactidae, it was transferred to Euscorpiidae by Soleglad & Sissom (2001), who erected for this genus the tribe Chactopsini which was recognized by Soleglad & Fet (2003). In a later contribution Prendini & Wheeler (2005) synonymized Chactopsini under Chactidae, removing this genus from Euscorpiidae, but almost simultaneously Fet & Soleglad (2005) reversed such taxonomic change. The classification followed in the present paper is that of Prendini & Wheeler (2005), which is backed by Stockwell's (1989) phylogenetic analysis and supported by later contributions (Lourenço 2003; Flórez & Mattoni 2007).

Nine species of *Chactopsis* are known: *Chactopsis insignis* Kraepelin is shared by Peru and Brazil (Lourenço & Francke 1986; Lourenço 2002), and *Chactopsis anduzei* González-Sponga by Brazil and Venezuela (González-Sponga 1982, 1996; Lourenço & Francke 1986; Lourenço 2002; Rojas-Runjaic & de Sousa 2007). *Chactopsis amazonica* Lourenço & Francke and *Chactopsis buhrnheimi* Lourenço are known only from Brazil (Lourenço & Francke 1986; Lourenço 2002, 2003), whereas *Chactopsis sujirima* González-Sponga, *Chactopsis barajuri* González-Sponga, *Chactopsis coriacea* González-Sponga, *Chactopsis siapaensis* González-Sponga and *Chactopsis marahuacaensis* González-Sponga have been only recorded in Venezuela (González-Sponga 1982, 1991, 1996, 2004; Rojas-Runjaic & de Sousa 2007).

A recent visit to the Instituto de Investigación de Recursos Biológicos Alexander von Humboldt (Villa de Leyva, Colombia) revealed the existence of a new species of *Chactopsis* that is described in the present paper. The new species is the first of the genus to be known from Colombia, raising to five the number of chactid genera in the country: *Broteochactas* Pocock, *Brotheas* C.L. Koch, *Chactas* Gervais, *Chactopsis* and *Teuthraustes* Simon.