



Redescription of *Paccius quadridentatus* Simon, 1898 (Araneae: Corinnidae: Trachelinae) based on the holotype

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Paccius is a small genus of tracheline spiders with only eight species described from Madagascar (seven species) and Seychelles (one species) (Platnick, 2008). However, the genus is likely more diverse and may include as many as 25 species from Madagascar and adjacent islands such as Comoro, La Réunion, and Mauritius (Platnick, 2000). Only five species of this genus were properly illustrated and diagnosed by Platnick (2000). None of the three species described by Simon, including *P. madagascariensis* Simon, 1898, the type species, have ever been illustrated. The figures of *P. quadridentatus* in Benoit (1978) refer to *Oedignatha mogamoga* Marples, 1955 (Platnick, 2000).

The only work with the first illustrations of *Paccius* species was published by Platnick (2000), who illustrated the copulatory organs of five species. The general habitus of *Paccius* has never been illustrated.

While organizing the spider specimens remaining after the late Michael I. Saaristo, I found a vial with the holotype male of *Paccius quadridentatus* Simon, obviously borrowed from the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris. As I realized that this species was never thoroughly described, and the habitus of *Paccius* has never been depicted, I decided to provide a detailed redescription of *P. quadridentatus*, and provide figures of its habitus.

Specimens were photographed using an Olympus SZX12 stereomicroscope and Olympus Camedia C-5050 camera. The images have been montaged using "CombineZM" image stacking software. The palp was macerated with lactic acid to make the passage of the seminal duct visible. All measurements are given in millimeters.

Paccius quadridentatus Simon, 1898

Figs 1–13

Paccius quadridentatus Simon, 1898: 385 (D♂).

Material examined: The male holotype, with a label "19460 *Paccius* 4-dentatus ES im Sechellae (Brauer)" (Fig. 11), Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris.

Diagnosis: *P. quadridentatus* differs from its congeners by an undeveloped retrolateral cymbial extension (present in all other illustrated species and in *P. madagascariensis*; Platnick, 2000: 116) and a very small, transparent (almost invisible) retrolateral tibial apophysis (well developed in all other illustrated species).

Description: Total length 4.50 (not including chelicerae). Carapace 2.25 long, 1.85 wide, 1.13 high, dark red-brown, droplet-shaped, cephalic part much wider and higher than thoracic (Figs 1, 2). The entire surface covered with fine tubercles. Eyes in two almost straight rows, almost subequal in size (Fig. 4). Clypeus small, about the diameter of AME. ALE spaced from the carapace margin by less than their diameter. Sternum lighter than carapace, surface covered with tubercles. Chelicerae rugous, heavily built, strongly protruding, with 4 promarginal and 4 retromarginal teeth. Labium and maxillae long, maxillae depressed along medial edges, terminal parts converging. Right maxilla S-shaped. Coxae I very long, more than two times longer than coxae III. Coxae IV spaced by less than their diameter (Fig. 3). Intercoxal sclerites present. Legs pale yellow except for brownish coxae; leg surface covered with fine tubercles. Tarsi widened in terminal part, with two dentate claws placed perpendicular to the axis of the tarsus (Fig. 6).

Metatarsi I and II with two ventral rows of denticles (Fig. 5). Scopula present on legs I and II, or at least very weak. Metatarsi III and IV with preening comb and dense preening brush just before the comb (Fig. 6).