



A new species of *Cryptocellus* (Arachnida, Ricinulei) from the Kofán Territory in southwestern Colombia

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Abstract

Cryptocellus luisedieri **sp. nov.** is described from a male specimen obtained from leaf litter in the Kofán Territory, southwestern Colombia. The new species exhibits a series of interesting morphological features including the presence of cuticular pits and a unique shape of the male copulatory apparatus. The new species, which is the first ricinuleid found in the southern Colombian Andes, brings to seven the number of species of *Cryptocellus* Westwood, 1874 known to occur in Colombia and to 66 the number of extant species of this rare arachnid order. A male-based key to the identification of the Colombian ricinuleid species and a map showing their known distribution are included.

Key words: Taxonomy, *Cryptocellus luisedieri* **sp. nov.**, Nariño Department

Resumen

Se describe *Cryptocellus luisedieri* **sp. nov.** con base en un espécimen obtenido de la hojarasca en el Territorio Kofán, Colombia suroccidental. La nueva especie exhibe una serie de características morfológicas interesantes que incluyen la presencia de hoyos cuticulares y una forma muy única del aparato copulador masculino. La nueva especie, que representa el primer hallazgo de ricinúlidos en el sur de los Andes Colombianos, incrementa a siete el número de especies de *Cryptocellus* Westwood, 1874 conocidas para Colombia y a 66 el número de especies actuales de este raro orden de arácnidos. Se incluyen una clave basada en machos para la identificación de las especies Colombianas de ricinúlidos y un mapa mostrando su distribución conocida.

Palabras clave: Taxonomía, *Cryptocellus luisedieri* **sp. nov.**, Departamento Nariño

Introduction

The arachnid order Ricinulei consists of two suborders: Palaeoricinulei Selden, 1992 with four fossil genera in two families, and Neoricinulei Selden, 1992 with the sole family Ricinoididae Ewing, 1929 currently consisting of 65 known species in three extant genera (Selden 1992; Harvey 2003). The extant genera have well-defined geographic distributions: *Ricinoides* Ewing, 1929 is made up of eleven species restricted to equatorial west and central Africa (Harvey 2003; Naskrecki 2008), *Pseudocellus* Platnick, 1980 comprises 21 species occurring in Cuba and extreme southern U.S.A. (Texas) south to Panama (Harvey 2003; Cokendolpher & Enríquez 2004; Teruel & Armas 2008), and *Cryptocellus* Westwood, 1874 consists of 33 species known from Honduras southward through Central and tropical South America to Brazil (Bonaldo & Pinto-da-Rocha 2003; Harvey 2003; Pinto-da-Rocha & Bonaldo 2007; Tourinho & Azevedo 2007; Botero-Trujillo & Pérez 2008; Platnick & García 2008). Three of the 65 extant ricinuleid species have been designated as *nomina dubia* because they were based exclusively upon nymphal specimens, which make them