



One new species of scorpion belonging to the genus *Euscorpions* Vachon, 1980 from Yunan, China (Scorpiones: Euscorpionidae, Scorpiones)

DONG SUN, MING-SHENG ZHU¹

College of life science, Hebei University, Baoding, Hebei Province, 071002, China

¹Corresponding author. E-mail: bio.sundong@126.com

Abstract

A new species of the genus *Euscorpions* Vachon, 1980 is described, based on specimens collected from Menglian County, Yunnan Province, China. It is characterized by the following characters: (1) pectinal teeth number 7–7 in females and 8–8 in males; (2) cheliceral movable finger with 6–7 basal teeth on ventral edge; (3) chela ratio of length to width over 3.5 in females and over 4.1 in males; (4) a slight lobe on movable finger and corresponding notch on fixed finger in both males and females, with no marked sexual dimorphism; (5) patella with 19 external trichobothria (*6eb*, *2esh*, *2em*, *4est*, *5et*), and with 10 ventral trichobothria. With the species described in the present publication, the number of known species of *Euscorpions* is raised to 17.

Key words: taxonomy, Euscorpionidae, *Euscorpions*, new species, Yunnan, China

Introduction

The genus *Scorpions* Vachon, 1980, subfamily Scorpionsinae Kraepelin, 1905, formerly included in the family Vaejovidae Thorell, 1876 was revised by Vachon (1980) who proposed three subgenera, *Alloscorpions*, *Euscorpions* and *Neoscorpions*, in addition to the nominotypical subgenus *Scorpions*. The subgenus *Euscorpions* was distinguished from the subgenus *Scorpions* by the number of external trichobothria on the pedipalp patella: 18–20 in *Euscorpions* compared with 17 in *Scorpions*. Lourenço (1998) raised the subgenus *Euscorpions* to genus level and the subfamily Scorpionsinae to family level, Scorpionidae. Soleglad & Sissom (2001) subsequently downgraded Scorpionidae again to subfamily level, and placed it in the family Euscorpionidae. They also revised the genus *Euscorpions*, but only based on the position of trichobothrium *Eb*₃, and neglected the significance of the number of trichobothria on pedipalp patella. It caused some wrong transfers between these two genera (Kovářík, 2005). The genus *Euscorpions* is a small group of scorpions comprising 16 species with a narrow distribution in Southwest Asia including India, Vietnam, Laos, Burma, Bhutan, Thailand and China (Tikader & Bastawade, 1983; Kovářík, 2000, 2004, 2005; Qi, Zhu & Lourenço, 2005; Bastawade, 2006; Zhu, Zhang & Lourenço, 2007). Five species have been recorded from China: *Euscorpions novaki* Kovářík, 2005 (Tibet); *Euscorpions vachoni* Zhu, Qi & Lourenço, 2005 (Yunnan); *Euscorpions karschi* Lourenço, Zhu & Qi, 2005 (Tibet); *Euscorpions shidian* Zhu, Qi & Lourenço, 2005 (Yunnan) and *Euscorpions yangi* Zhu, Zhang & Lourenço, 2007 (Yunnan). The recent study of several scorpions collected in Yunnan Province, China, revealed a new species, *Euscorpions xui* sp. nov., which is the sixth species of the genus *Euscorpions* to be recorded from China.

Material and methods

Specimens were examined and measured under a Leica M165c stereomicroscope with an ocular micrometer. Illustrations were produced using a Leica M165c stereomicroscope with a drawing tube. The photo was taken