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Studies in Corinnidae (Araneae): a new *Paratrachelas* Kovblyuk & Nadolny from Algeria, as well as the description of a new genus of Old World Trachelinae

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Abstract

A new *Paratrachelas* Kovblyuk & Nadolny, 2009 species, *P. atlantis* **sp. n.**, is described from Algeria. As a result of a cladistic analysis involving ten Palaearctic *Trachelas* L. Koch, 1872 and *Paratrachelas* species, *T. validus* Simon, 1884, and *T. ibericus* Bosselaers *et al.*, 2009 are transferred to *Paratrachelas* as *P. validus* new combination and *P. ibericus* new combination, and a new genus, *Metatrachelas* **gen. n.**, is erected, to which *T. rayi* Simon, 1878, *T. macrochelis* Wunderlich, 1992, and *T. amabilis* Simon, 1878 are transferred as *M. rayi* new combination, *M. macrochelis* new combination and *M. amabilis* new combination.

Key words: Arachnida, Mediterranean, *Trachelas*, *Metatrachelas*, *Paratrachelas atlantis*, *P. validus*, *P. ibericus*, cladistic analysis, phylogeny, polyphyletic

Introduction

The genus *Trachelas* L. Koch, 1872 as presently defined encompasses 86 species, including 59 American species, eight species from Europe and the Mediterranean, 12 species from East Asia and seven species from subsaharan Africa (Platnick 2010). The genus is not homogeneous (Simon 1897: 180) and can be considered polyphyletic (Platnick & Ewing 1995; Bosselaers *et al.* 2009; Haddad *et al.* 2009). Platnick and Ewing (1995) already removed *Meriola* Banks 1895 from synonymy, and recently Kovblyuk & Nadolny (2009) erected a new genus, *Paratrachelas*, for *T. maculatus* Thorell, 1875 and *T. acuminus* Zhu & An, 1988. In the present contribution we describe a new *Paratrachelas* from Algeria and perform a cladistic analysis on ten Palaearctic *Trachelas* and *Paratrachelas* species, allowing the delimitation of yet another separate genus, *Metatrachelas* **gen. n.**, and the transfer of two more *Trachelas* species to *Paratrachelas*.

Methods and abbreviations

Specimens were observed, photographed and drawn using Euromex MIC465 and Olympus SZX9 binocular microscopes. Vulvae (cleared in methyl salicylate) were observed, photographed and drawn using a Wild M12 compound microscope. All micrographs were made with a Praktica DC42 digital camera. All measurements are in mm.

Abbreviations used: AE, anterior eyes; AER, anterior eye row; AME, anterior median eyes; CO, copulatory opening; do, dorsal; FD, fertilisation duct; fe, femur; fr, frontal; ICS, intercoxal sclerites (Bosselaers & Jocqué 2002: fig. 1K); ID, insemination duct; MOQ, median ocular quadrangle; mt, metatarsus; pa, patella; PCT, precoxal triangles (Penniman 1985: 16; Bosselaers & Jocqué (2002: fig. 1K); PE, posterior eyes; PER, posterior eye row; pl, prolateral; PLB, pleural bars ("pièces épimériennes" of Simon (1892: 11, fig. 29); Bosselaers & Jocqué 2002: fig. 1P)); plv, prolateral ventral; PSP, *plagula sternalis postica* (Simon 1892: 5, figs. 15–18; Ledoux & Canard 1991: figs. 13–14); pt, pitfall trap; rh, retrocoxal hymen

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