



First description of the female of *Emblyna zherikhini* (Marusik 1988) comb. n. (Araneae: Dictynidae)

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Emblyna Chamberlin 1948 is a fairly large Holarctic genus of dictynid spiders containing currently 75 nominal species (Platnick 2011). Most of the species (65) are known from the Nearctic Region. Although the genus was revised in the Nearctic (Chamberlin & Gertsch 1958) and several species were recently described from the West and East Palaearctic it remains poorly studied. Fourteen species are known from one sex only, either by males or by females. The internal structures of the epigyne are known only for some Palaearctic species. According to Lehtinen (1967) *Emblyna* differs from the related genus *Dictyna* Sundevall 1833 by having 2–3 metatarsal trichobothria (1 in *Dictyna*), a modified embolus in the male palp (simple in *Dictyna*) and a complex vulva in the female.

In the Eastern Palaearctic only two species are known exclusively from the male sex: “*Dictyna*” *zherikhini* Marusik 1988 and *E. mongolica* Marusik & Koponen 1998. The former species was tentatively assigned to *Dictyna* in the original description. Later the species epithet was used mainly in combination with *Emblyna* (Marusik *et al.* 1992; Mikhailov 1996, 1997; Marusik 2005a, b) although no formal new combination has been proposed.

Recently, Yuri M. Marusik kindly gave me a sample of *Emblyna zherikhini* from the Taimyr Peninsula, which included both sexes. The main aims of this paper are: 1) to provide the first description of the female, 2) to redescribe the male showing somatic characters and 3) to establish a formal new combination.

Illustrations were made using both reflected and transmitted light microscopes. Microphotographs were made with an Olympus Camedia E-520 camera attached to an Olympus SZX16 stereomicroscope at the Zoological Museum, University of Turku. Digital images were montaged using “CombineZP” image stacking software. Proper illustration of the epigyne (ventral view) is not provided, because it is almost invisible on intact epigyne, and one epigyne was lost during the preparation. Epigynes were macerated in KOH water solution and then exposed in alcohol solution of Chlorazol Black to make weakly sclerotized parts more visible. Photographs were taken in paraffin based dishes. All measurements are in mm.

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Emblyna zherikhini (Marusik 1988) comb. n.

Figs 1–11

Dictyna? *zherikhini* Marusik 1988: 1474, figs 2.8–10 (male).

Dictyna zherikhini: Marusik *et al.* 1993: 71.

Emblyna zherikhini: Marusik *et al.* 1992: 137; Mikhailov 1996: 113; Mikhailov 1997: 151; Marusik 2005a: 190; Marusik 2005b: 266.

Material examined: 2 males, 2 females, 2 juv. (ZMMU), Krasnoyarsk Province, down flow of Kotui River, 71°24'N 103°E, ca. 30 m altitude, VI.–VII.2010 (O.A. Khrulyova).

Note. The species is transferred to *Emblyna* because the embolus has a modified (thick) tip, and in the female the vulva is complex (not V-shaped shaped as in *Dictyna*). The trichobothrial formula (one trichobothrium on the metatarsus) in this species is like that seen in *Dictyna*.