



A new species of the schizomid genus *Stenochrus* (Schizomida: Hubbardiidae) from Mexico

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Abstract

A new Mexican species of *Stenochrus* Chamberlin, 1922. *Stenochrus valdezi* new species, is described from Cueva de San Francisco in Chiapas based on adult male and female specimens. With the description of this species, there are 17 species from Mexico, being the country with the highest diversity of species of the genus *Stenochrus* worldwide.

Key words: *Stenochrus*, taxonomy, Chiapas, Mexico

Resumen

Una nueva especie mexicana de *Stenochrus* Chamberlin, 1922 es descrita: *Stenochrus valdezi* sp. nov., de Cueva de San Francisco en el estado de Chiapas, conocida de macho y hembras. Con la descripción de esta especie, hay 17 especies para México, siendo el país con la mayor diversidad de especies del género *Stenochrus* a nivel mundial.

Palabras clave: *Stenochrus*, taxonomía, Chiapas, México

Introduction

The order Schizomida Petrunkevitch, 1945 is a small group of arachnids, currently composed of two recent families: Hubbardiidae Cook, 1899 with 48 genera and 270 species; and Protoschizomidae Rowland, 1975 with two genera and 12 species worldwide (Harvey 2003; Armas 2010). The family Hubbardiidae is represented in Mexico by five genera: *Stenochrus* Chamberlin, 1922; *Sotanostenochrus* Reddell and Cokendolpher, 1991; *Schizomus* Cook 1899; *Mayazomus* Reddell and Cokendolpher, 1995; and *Pacal* Reddell and Cokendolpher, 1995. The genus with the highest diversity in Mexico is *Stenochrus*, which includes 20 species worldwide and 16 Mexican species (Reddell and Cokendolpher 1995; Harvey 2003).

The principal contributions to taxonomy of schizomids from Mexico have been done by Rowland and Reddell (1979a, 1979b, 1980, 1981) and Reddell and Cokendolpher (1986), in these works they described 32 Mexican species. Two decades later, Montaña-Moreno and Francke (2009) published a new species: *Agastoschizomus juxtlahuacensis* (Protoschizomidae) from the Grutas of Juxtlahuaca, Guerrero; and Armas and Cruz-López (2009) described *Stenochrus tepezcuintle* from San Miguel Soyaltepec, Oaxaca. These studies show that research on Mexican schizomids had been stopped for 23 years.

However, there are many undescribed species known from Central and North America, and although the order has been studied in this region, the recent collections made in Mexico by the Colección Nacional de Arácnidos (CNAN) Instituto de Biología, UNAM, have revealed that the diversity might be higher than has been expected for the country.