



Article

urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:E2DEE417-A78A-48B6-9412-FF1DC6B5C3FD

***Brasilomma* gen. nov., a new prodidomid genus from Brazil (Araneae, Prodidomidae)**

ANTONIO DOMINGOS BRESCOVIT¹, RODRIGO LOPES FERREIRA², MARCONI SOUZA SILVA³
& CRISTINA ANNE RHEIMS¹

¹Laboratório Especial de Coleções Zoológicas, Instituto Butantan, Av. Vital Brasil, 1500, CEP 05503-900, São Paulo, SP, Brazil.
E-mail: anyphaenidae@butantan.gov.br, cris.rheims@butantan.gov.br

²Laboratório de Ecologia Subterrânea, Departamento de Zoologia, Universidade Federal de Lavras (UFLA), Lavras, Minas Gerais, Brazil. Caixa postal 3037. CEP: 37200-000. E-mail: drops@dbi.ufla.br

³Núcleo de Pesquisa em Saúde e Biológicas, Centro Universitário de Lavras (UNILAVRAS). E-mail: marconisouza@unilavras.edu.br

Abstract

The genus *Brasilomma* **gen. nov.** is described to include *B. enigmatica* **sp. nov.** collected in three caves from the state of Minas Gerais, Brazil. This genus can be distinguished from the remaining South American Prodidomidae by the male palps with large triangular projection, covering the base of the embolus, the distal border of the tegulum projected over the base of the conductor and median apophysis and by the female epigynum with blind, posterior atrium and anteriorly widened copulation ducts arising from an internal, mushroom-shaped plate. In addition, aspects of the species natural history are described.

Key words: new genus, new species, caves, Brazil, taxonomy

Introduction

Prodidomidae Simon is a large and widespread spider family that currently includes 303 species and 30 genera (Platnick 2012). As a member of the superfamily Gnaphosoidea, it shares with Ammoxenidae Simon, Cithaeronidae Simon, Gallienellidae Millot, Gnaphosidae Pocock, Lamponidae Simon and Trochantheriidae Karsch the flat and silvery posterior median eyes, with a triangular, egg-like or irregularly rectangular shape (Platnick & Baehr 2006). They are most closely related to Lamponidae and Gnaphosidae, with whom they share anterior lateral spinnerets composed of a single segment, but are distinguished from them by the enlarged piriform gland spigots with greatly elongated bases (Platnick *et al.* 2005).

Eleven genera occur in the Neotropical region but only three are described from Brazil: *Lygromma* Simon, with four species, *Oltacloea* Mello-Leitão, with two and *Tricongius* Simon, with one (Platnick 2012). In addition, *Zimiris doriae* Simon, a circumtropical synanthropic species, was recently recorded for the first time in the state of Bahia (Almeida-Silva & Brescovit 2008).

In this paper we describe the new prodidomid genus, *Brasilomma* **gen. nov.**, with *B. enigmatica* **sp. nov.** as the type species, based on four specimens collected in three caves in the state of Minas Gerais. This taxon was easily recognized as belonging to Prodidomidae by the presence of piriform gland spigots greatly elongated with long and plumose setae at their base (Figs 9–10, 13–14; Platnick *et al.* 2005). Within Prodidomidae the genus can be placed in Theuminae (Platnick *et al.* 2005) due to the presence of a large protrusion between the fourth coxae with numerous long erect setae, specialized claw teeth grasping the claw tuft seta (Figs 6–8) and extremely convoluted ducts in the female epigynum (Figs 21–22). In addition to the description, notes on the species' natural history and habitat are presented.