



The first palpimanid spiders from Bolivia: two new species of the genus *Otiothops* MacLeay, and the female of *Fernandezina pulchra* Birabén (Araneae: Palpimanidae: Otiothopinae)

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Abstract

The araneomorph spider family Palpimanidae is reported from Bolivia for the first time. Two new species: *Otiothops kathiae* and *O. naokii* are described and illustrated based on specimens recently collected in Santa Cruz Department. Additionally, *Fernandezina pulchra* Birabén, 1951 previously known only from Formosa, in northern Argentina, is newly recorded from Santa Cruz, and the female is described for the first time. Potential relationships with previously described species are also briefly discussed.

Key words: Arachnida, taxonomy, Neotropical

Introduction

The spider subfamily Otiothopinae (Araneae: Palpimanidae), first revised by Platnick (1975) and later updated by Platnick *et al.* (1999), comprises four genera known only from the Neotropical Region (except for a few probably misplaced species, see Platnick 2012). These contributions, along with several other descriptive papers (e.g. Grismado 2002, 2008; Grismado and Ramírez 2002; Buckup & Ott 2004; Brescovit *et al.* 2007), brought to 60 the number of described species, distributed in the West Indies and the main continent, from Panama to Argentina, Uruguay, and central Chile. To date, no specimens of this family have been reported from Bolivia, although palpimanids are well known from the neighboring countries (Peru, Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina and Chile), and Bolivia has an extensive territory with a high diversity of ecosystems, including rainforests and Chaco in Santa Cruz department; both biomes are potentially inhabited by many palpimanid species. The lack of palpimanid records from this country seems clearly related to scant collection efforts by specialists.

A recent field expedition resulted in the discovery of specimens belonging to three different species. Two of them are undescribed species of *Otiothops* MacLeay, 1839, and the remaining specimens were identified as belonging to *Fernandezina pulchra* Birabén, 1951, a species known only from the holotype male, collected in the middle of the 20th century in northern Argentina. The female is here described for the first time.

Material and methods

Descriptions and terminology follow Platnick *et al.* (1999). The descriptions mention only the relevant features of the species, without repeating common characters for the genera. The material examined is deposited at the Colección Boliviana de Fauna, La Paz (CBF, Juan Miguel Limachi Kantuta) and the Aracnological Collection of