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Five new minute orb-weaving spiders of the family Mysmenidae from China (Araneae)

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Abstract

Five new mysmenid species are described from Southwest China including *Mосу dayan* n. sp. (male and female), *Mосу tanjia* n. sp. (male and female), *Mysmena baoxingensis* n. sp. (male and female), *Mysmenella yinae* n. sp. (male and female), *Trogloneta uncatata* n. sp. (male). Males of the genus *Mосу* are described for the first time. All new species are from caves or leaf litter. Morphological illustrations and photos of all new species are given.

Key words: Taxonomy, mysmenids, new species, epigynum, pedipalp

Introduction

Mysmenids are symphytognathoids, a group that includes the families Anapidae, Mysmenidae, Symphytognathidae, Theridiosomatidae and Synaphridae (Griswold *et al.* 1998, Lopardo *et al.* 2008, Schütt 2003). Mysmenidae is sister to a clade composed of Synaphridae plus Anapidae (Lopardo *et al.* 2011). Mysmenidae includes 23 genera and 123 species worldwide (Platnick 2013). The earliest known Chinese species is from Hunan province, *Mysmenella gongi* Yin *et al.*, 2004. Ono (2007) described another species, *Mysmena taiwanica*, from Taiwan. Subsequently, 11 mysmenid species were described from Yunnan, Guizhou and Hainan provinces (Lin & Li 2008). Miller *et al.* (2009) studied symphytognathoid spiders from the Gangligongshan Mountains of Yunnan, describing four new mysmenid genera and 17 new species. Including the five new species described herein, Chinese mysmenids are comprised of nine genera and 35 species. More species are expected to be discovered in China.

Material and Methods

Specimens were examined, measured and illustrated under an Olympus SZX7 stereomicroscope and an Olympus BX43 compound microscope with attached drawing tube. Male pedipalpi and female epigynes were removed and treated in lactic acid before illustration. To reveal the course of the spermatid duct, pedipalpi were also treated in lactic acid and mounted in Hoyer's Solution. Photos were taken with a Canon EOS 60D wide zoom digital camera (8.5 megapixels) mounted on an Olympus BX43 stereomicroscope. The images were montaged using Helicon image stacking software.

All measurements were made in millimeters. Leg measurements were given in the following sequence: total length (femur, patella, tibia, metatarsus, and tarsus). The abbreviations used in text were as follows: AER—anterior eye row; ALE—anterior lateral eye; AME—anterior median eye; PER—posterior eye row; PLE—posterior lateral eye; PME—posterior median eye.