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## Six new species of oonopid spiders from Champasak, Laos (Araneae, Oonopidae)

YANFENG TONG<sup>1</sup> & SHUQIANG LI<sup>2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Chemistry and Life Science College, Shenyang Normal University, Shenyang 110034, China (tyf68@hotmail.com)

<sup>2</sup>Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100101, China

<sup>3</sup>Corresponding author. E-mail: lisq@ioz.ac.cn

### Abstract

Five genera and nine species of oonopid spiders are recorded from Laos, including six new species: *Gamasomorpha comosa* Tong & Li, 2009, *Ischnothyreus corollacous* sp. nov., *Ischnothyreus tadetu* sp. nov., *Ischnothyreus tadfane* sp. nov., *Opopaea cornuta* Yin & Wang, 1984, *Opopaea lemniscata* sp. nov., *Opopaea tumida* sp. nov., *Xestaspis loricata* (L. Koch, 1873), and *Xyphinus pakse* sp. nov.

**Keywords:** Taxonomy, distribution, diagnosis, type, Southeast Asia

### Introduction

Goblin spiders or oonopids (Oonopidae) are an extremely diverse spider family with 1135 described species in 93 genera (Platnick, 2013). Members of this family are rather small (0.5–4.0 mm), haplogyne spiders, usually with six eyes, with or without leg spines, and either soft-bodied or with abdominal scuta (Saaristo, 2001). Goblin spiders have a worldwide distribution and are very abundant in the tropics. They can be found in leaf litter, under bark and even in the tree canopy (e.g., Baehr, 2011; Deeleman-Reinhold, 1987; Kranz-Baltensperger, 2011; Tong & Li, 2010, 2011).

Laos is a landlocked, mountainous country in Southeast Asia, covered by largely unspoiled tropical forest. The oonopid spider fauna of this country has been poorly studied. Hitherto, only one species, *Pelacinus tham*, has been recorded from Laos (Platnick *et al.*, 2012). The present paper expands the known oonopid diversity of Laos by five genera and nine species, including six new species.

### Material and methods

The specimens were examined using a Leica M205C stereomicroscope. Details were studied under an Olympus BX51 compound microscope. All illustrations were made using a drawing tube and inked on ink jet plotter paper. Photos were made with a Canon EOS 550D zoom digital camera (18 megapixels) mounted on an Olympus BX51 compound microscope. Vulvae were cleared in lactic acid. All measurements were taken using an Olympus BX51 compound microscope and are in millimeters.

The following abbreviations are used in the text: ALE = anterior lateral eyes; PLE = posterior lateral eyes; PME = posterior median eyes.

All the spiders studied were collected in Champasak Province in November 2012 by the second author, under the leadership of Peter Jäger from Senckenberg, Germany. Champasak Province is bordered by Cambodia to the south, and Thailand to the west. All specimens are deposited in the Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing (IZCAS).