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## A new genus of huntsman spiders (Araneae, Sparassidae, Sparianthinae) from the Neotropical region

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### Abstract

*Uaiuara* **gen. nov.** is described to include *Sparianthis amazonica* Simon from Brazil, *Sparianthis barroana* Chamberlin from Panama, and five new species, namely: *Uaiuara quyguaba* **sp. nov.** from the states of Amazonas, Pará and Amapá; *Uaiuara ope* **sp. nov.** from Acre and *Uaiuara jirau* **sp. nov.** from Rondônia, all in northern Brazil, *Uaiuara palenque* **sp. nov.** from Ecuador and *Uaiuara diana* **sp. nov.** from Peru. The genus is easily distinguished from the remaining Neotropical Sparianthinae by the very recurved anterior eye row, the large number of ventral spines on tibiae of legs I-II, the retrolateral groove on the male palpal cymbium and the convoluted duct system of the female vulva. In addition, the female of *S. barroana* and the male of *S. amazonica* are described for the first time. The latter species is newly recorded from Colombia, Suriname, Ecuador and Bolivia.

**Key words:** *Uaiuara*, taxonomy, new genus, new species, Amazonia

### Introduction

The genus *Sparianthis* was proposed by Simon (1880) to include *Themeropsis granadensis* Keyserling, 1880, described from a subadult female from Nova Granada, Colombia. He stated that the species differed from the remaining *Themeropsis* L. Koch, 1875 by the dorsally convex prosoma, the lack of retromarginal teeth in the chelicerae (which are, in fact, not lacking but reduced to small denticles) and the very poorly developed, or completely lacking leg scopula, and thus merited the proposal of a new genus. In this same paper he described *Sparianthis amazonica* Simon, 1880, based on a female from Tefé, Amazonas, Brazil. A few years later, Banks (1929) transferred *Chemmis barroana* Chamberlin, 1925 to *Sparianthis* thus introducing the first known male of the genus.

A careful examination of the type specimens of all three species showed that neither *S. amazonica* nor *S. barroana* are congeneric with the type species, *S. granadensis*. Although the type specimen of *S. granadensis* is a moulting subadult female, the visible structures of the pre-epigyne are more similar to those of species of the genus *Pseudosparianthis* Simon 1887 than to the remaining *Sparianthis*. Also, it differs from *S. amazonica* and *S. barroana* in having only three pairs of spines on ventral tibiae I–II and 2 pairs on ventral metatarsi I–II. *Sparianthis amazonica* and *S. barroana* have 8 and 7 pairs of spines, respectively, on ventral tibiae I–II and only one pair on ventral metatarsi I–II.

In this paper I propose the new genus, *Uaiuara* **gen. nov.** to include *S. amazonica* and *S. barroana* and five new species, all from northern South America and southern Central America. In addition, the male of *S. amazonica* and the female of *S. barroana* are described for the first time.

### Material and methods

The material examined belongs to the following institutions (curator in parentheses): AMNH—American Museum of Natural History, New York, USA (N.I. Platnick); CAS—California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, USA

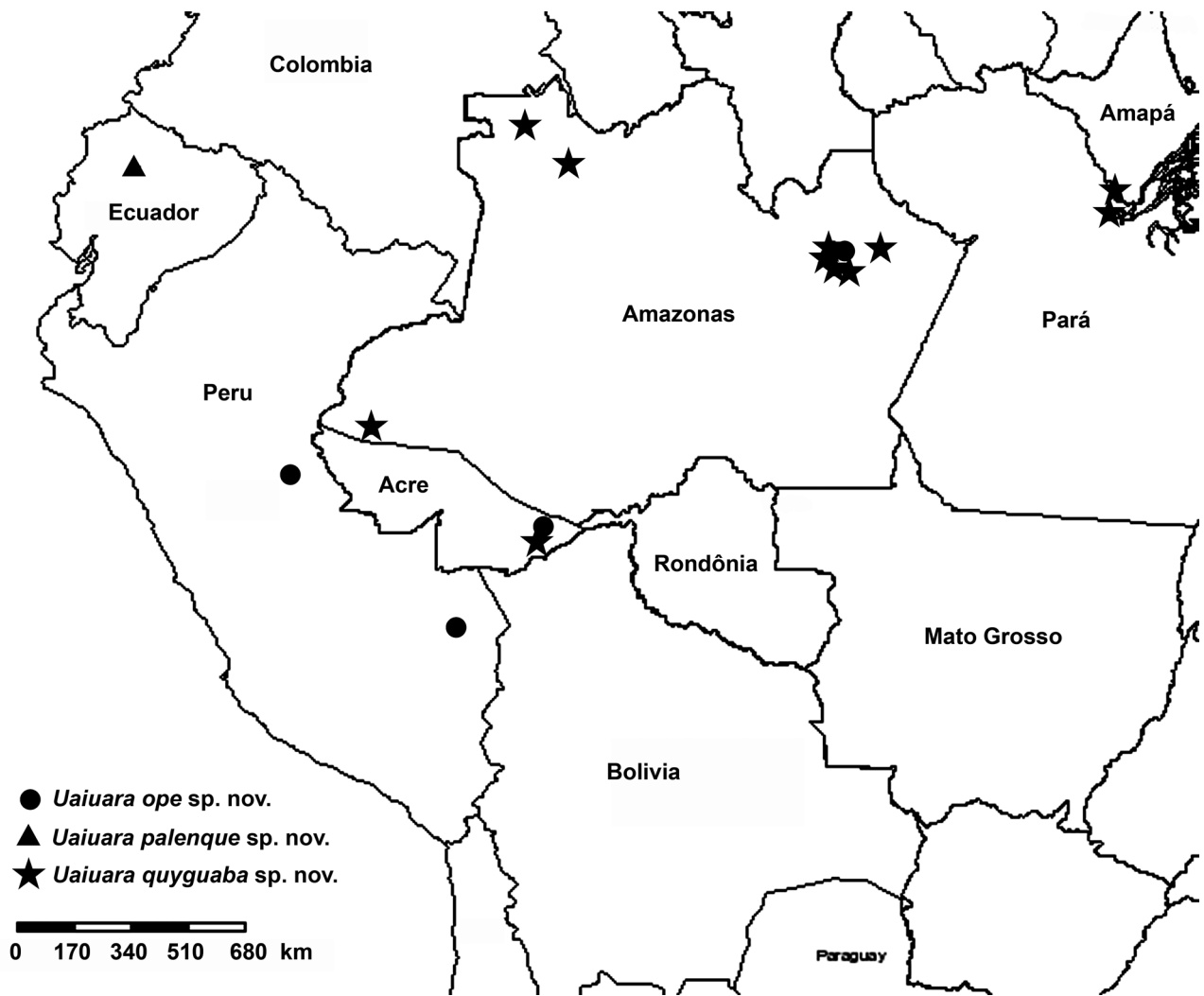


FIGURE 59. Distribution map for *Uaiuara ope* sp. nov., *Uaiuara palenque* sp. nov. and *Uaiuara quyguaba* sp. nov.

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