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Synonymy of the North African spider genus *Castanilla* Caporiacco, 1936 with *Micaria* Westring, 1851 (Araneae: Gnaphosidae)

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The spider genus *Castanilla* Caporiacco, 1936 is presently represented by two species, *C. quinquemaculata* Caporiacco, 1936 (type species) and *C. marchesii* Caporiacco, 1936, both described from Libya. The genus has never been revised and neither of the two species have ever been redescribed (Platnick 2013). The placement of the genus has up to now also been rather uncertain. Caporiacco (1936a,b) described and placed its two species in the Clubionidae, Reiskind (1969) placed it in Clubionidae: Castianeirinae, and it is currently included in the Corinnidae (Platnick 2013).

Examination of the type material, held in the Museo di Storia Naturale, Sezione di Zoologia "La Specola", University of Florence, Italy (MZUF), revealed that these two species are misplaced and display characteristics typical of the widespread gnaphosid genus *Micaria* Westring, 1851: procurved posterior eye row with the median eyes elongate and shiny; the presence of iridescent scales (unciferous squamose setae) and brachiate hairs on the body, particularly the abdomen (see Murphy 2007a: 30 for details of structure); fovea absent; tarsi, metatarsi and sometimes the distal ends of the tibiae with scopulae consisting of a double row of spatulate setae (Dippenaar-Schoeman & Jocqué 1997; Murphy 2007b: 548). Consequently, *Castanilla* is synonymised with *Micaria*, *C. marchesii* is synonymised with *M. pallipes* (Lucas, 1846) and *M. quinquemaculata* **comb. nov.** is considered a *nomen dubium*.

To date, only two species of *Micaria* have been recorded from Libya: *M. fausta* Karsch, 1881, which was described from a juvenile specimen and is considered a *nomen dubium*, and *M. pallipes* (Bosmans & Blick 2000; Platnick 2013). It is possible that either the misidentified paralectotype female of *C. marchesii* deposited in MZUF or the holotype of *M. quinquemaculata* **comb. nov.** may be conspecific with *M. fausta*. These species may both represent additional records for the Libyan fauna, but their taxonomic status can only be resolved when further material becomes available from the country for study.

The material examined was studied in 70% ethanol using a Nikon SMZ800 stereomicroscope for descriptions, digital photographs and measurements. A sequence of digital photographs of the dorsal habitus of both *Castanilla* species, as well as the eye region and female epigynes of *C. marchesii*, were taken using a Nikon Coolpix 8400 mounted on a Nikon SMZ800 stereomicroscope. The images were subsequently stacked using the Combine ZM software to increase depth of field (http://www.hadleyweb.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk). Scale bars were added to all figures in Corel Draw 14.0.

Locality co-ordinates were not available on any of the labels or in museum databases, and were thus searched for using www.geographic.org and are indicated in square brackets. None of the localities could be traced using the Global Gazetteer Version 2.2 (www.fallingrain.com).

Gnaphosidae Pocock, 1898

Micaria Westring, 1851

Micaria pallipes (Lucas, 1846)

Figs 1–3

Drassus pallipes Lucas, 1846: 227, pl. 14, fig. 3.
Castanilla marchesii Caporiacco, 1936b: 110, fig. 7 (#f lectotype and juvenile #f paralectotype, here designated: LIBYA: el-Tallab, Buema [24°14'N, 23°21'E], 15.II.1933, leg. O. Marchesi, MZUF 271, Mag no. 2552 – examined; #f

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Species *nomen dubium*

Micaria quinquemaculata (Caporiacco, 1936), comb. nov.

Fig. 5

Castanilla quinquemaculata Caporiacco, 1936a: 83, fig. 4 (juvenile #f holotype: LIBYA: Fezzan, Wadi Tanezzuft [25°51'N, 10°19'E], 8.III.1934, leg. Scortecci, MZUF 135 – examined).

Remarks: Examination of the holotype of *C. quinquemaculata* indicates that the specimen is a juvenile female (body length 2.0 mm) and does not have a developed epigyne, confirming information in the catalogue of type specimens in MZUF (Berdondini & Whitman 2002). Consequently, there is no epigyne that will allow a definitive identification. However, it clearly belongs to *Micaria* based on the morphological characteristics mentioned in the introductory remarks (Fig. 5). The species is considered a *nomen dubium* here and should be redescribed when additional specimens become available from the vicinity of the type locality in Libya.

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