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The species of *Trite* Simon, 1885 (Araneae: Salticidae) from New Caledonia

BARBARA M. PATOLETA

Department of Zoology, Siedlce University of Natural Sciences and Humanities, Prusa 12, 08–110, Siedlce, Poland, patoleta@uph.edu.pl

Abstract

The male holotype of *Trite lineata* Simon, 1885 is redescribed and the palp is illustrated for the first time. The female is formally described. Three new species are diagnosed, described and illustrated: *Trite caledoniensis* sp. nov., *T. guilberti* sp. nov. and *T. simoni* sp. nov. Remarks on distribution and relationships of the genus are given.

Key words: jumping spiders, new species, Pacific islands

Introduction

Trite Simon, 1885 was established for *T. pennata* Simon, 1885 (the type species) and *T. lineata* Simon, 1885, both from Nouméa, New Caledonia. Further contributions to the New Caledonian species of this genus were made by Berland, who described *T. ignipilosa* Berland, 1924 from Mt. Humboldt and *T. gracilipalpis* Berland, 1929 from Lifou, in the Loyalty Islands. Žabka (1988) redescribed *T. pennata*, while Berry *et al.* (1997) gave a generic diagnosis and illustrated *T. ignipilosa*, *T. gracilipalpis*, and the ventral view of the epigyne of *T. lineata*.

The present paper provides a redescription of the male holotype of *T. lineata*, whose palp is illustrated for the first time. Also, the female is formally described and both the ventral and dorsal views of the epigyne are given. Three other species (*T. caledoniensis* sp. nov., *T. guilberti* sp. nov. and *T. simoni* sp. nov.) are described.

Material and methods

The study is based on type and new material from New Caledonia (for details, see Patoleta 2011). Descriptions of colors pertain to wet specimens. The drawings were made using a grid system. Left palps were illustrated. The dissected epigyines were digested in 10% KOH and studied under transmission microscope. Dimensions (in mm) were taken with MultiScan software. Photographs were taken with a Canon Power Shot A620 camera and a Nikon SMZ800 stereomicroscope, and digitally processed with ZoomBrowser and HeliconFocus softwares. Maps with collecting records were generated with DIVA-GIS software. Abbreviations used: AEW: anterior eye row width, AME: anterior medial eyes, AL: abdomen length, AW: abdomen width, CH: cephalothorax height, CL: cephalothorax length, CW: cephalothorax width, EFL: eye field length, L: leg, mI: metatarsus I, pI: patella I, PEW: posterior eye row width, PLE: posterior lateral eyes, PME: posterior medial eyes, RTA: retrolateral tibial apophysis, tI: tibia I.

The material examined belongs to the following collections: AMNH—American Museum of Natural History, New York, USA; HNHM—Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary; MCZ—Museum of Comparative Zoology, Massachusetts, USA; MNHN—Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France; QM—Queensland Museum, Brisbane, Australia.

Female. Cephalothorax dark brown. Eyes surrounded in black, with sparse orange hairs. Posterior slope with small patch of white hairs. Clypeus brown, narrower (4%) than AME diameter, with three protruding seta. Chelicerae brown, promargin with single tooth, retromarginal tooth with 5 cusps. Endites and labium brown, sternum greyish brown. Legs light brown; ventral spination: pl: 2; tl: 2-2-2 (prolateral 1-1 or 0-1); ml: 2-2; pII: 0, tII: 2-2-2 (prolateral 1-1), mII: 2-2 (prolateral 1-1). Abdomen with whitish/greyish pattern, covered with sparse brown hairs. Venter whitish. Epigyne with distinct posterior pocket (Fig. 5). Copulatory ducts very short, parallel to each other (Fig. 11). Proximal part globular (secondary spermatheca), distal part duct-like with two loops. Spinnerets greyish.

Dimensions. CL 2.06, CW 1.56, CH 1.03, AL 2.67, AW 1.58, EFL 1.16, AEW 1.45, PEW 1.51, leg I: 4.97, leg II: 3.81, leg III: 4.05, leg: IV 4.71.

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