



Five new species of the spider genus *Clubiona* Latreille (Araneae: Clubionidae) from Thailand

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Abstract

Examination of a collection of the spider genus *Clubiona* Latreille, 1804 from northern and northeastern Thailand results in recognition of seven species, six of which belong to the *japonica*-group. Two new records in Thailand are added here (*C. melanosticta* Thorell, 1890 and *C. filicata* O. P.-Cambridge, 1874) and five species are new to science (*C. campylacantha* **sp. n.**, *C. octoginta* **sp. n.**, *C. filifera* **sp. n.**, *C. suthepica* **sp. n.**, *C. abnormis* **sp. n.**). Consequently, a total of twelve *Clubiona* species are hitherto known to occur in the kingdom. Special characters of the female genitalia of the *japonica*-group are investigated and their significance in taxonomic placement is discussed. The presently recognized species treated here are probably only a fraction of the actual Thai fauna.

Key words: Taxonomy, *japonica*-group, species descriptions, female genitalia

Introduction

The Clubionidae *sensu lato* is a very large family of two-clawed spiders with unmodified eye pattern. The definition of this family has not been established satisfactorily and is subject to debate (Jocqué & Dippenaar-Schoeman 2007). Until now, no synapomorphies are recognized as characters that unite the following three subfamilies: Clubioninae; Systariinae; Eutichurinae (Deeleman-Reinhold 2001). Over the last century the Clubionidae has been variously divided at suprageneric level both regionally and at a world scale (Roewer 1954). This classification was not adopted by subsequent authors. Most of Roewer's clubionid genera which occur in Southeast Asia have subsequently been transferred to the Anyphaenidae, Corinnidae, Liocranidae, Gnaphosidae and Miturgidae. The generic classification of the family up to now is a product of the revisionary paper by Bosselaers and Jocqué (2002), who overlaid, refined and added to the concepts of earlier authors.

The largest genus currently recognized in the family is *Clubiona* Latreille, which was established in 1804. There are about 450 nominal species, comprising approximately 80 percent of the entire family (according to Platnick (2007), who excludes *Cheiracanthium* C. L. Koch, 1839 from the Clubionidae). *Clubiona* species are numerous and widespread throughout most of the tropics and temperate regions of the world. They are particularly diverse and abundant in primary and secondary forests with sparse canopy and in agricultural ecosystems. Deeleman-Reinhold (2001) recently revised the Southeast Asian species, placing them into six main groups (five species-groups and a cluster of those species that cannot be assigned to any particular group). Among these species-groups, the *japonica*-group is the most abundant and is recognizable from the general appearance.

Mikhailov (1990) previously erected the subgenus *Clubiona* (*Japoniona*) to accommodate species that share the following diagnostic characters: male palp with sclerotized conductor and unbranched tibial apophy-