



One new species of the Genus *Scorpiops* Peters, 1861 (Scorpiones: Euscorpiidae, Scorpiopinae) from Xizang, China

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Abstract

Scorpiops lhasa sp. n., from China Xizang (Lhasa) is described. *S. lhasa* is small in size with respect to other species in the genus; external trichobothria on the patella number 17 (5 eb, 2 esb, 2 em, 4 est, 4 et) and ventral trichobothria on the patella number 10 (11 rarely); pedipalp fingers in both sexes are curved; chela narrow and elongated, the ratio between length and width is above 2.6.

Key words: Scorpiones, *Scorpiops*, Euscorpiidae, new species, Xizang (Tibet)

Introduction

Kraepelin (1905) proposed the subfamily Scorpiopinae as Scorpiopsinae, a subfamily of Vaejovidae. Stockwell (1992) raised Scorpiopsinae to the family level as Scorpiopsidae, and Kovařík (1998) and Lourenço (1998) agreed with this decision. Fet (2000) amended the spelling to Scorpiopidae. Subsequently, Soleglad & Sissom (2001) downgraded Scorpiopidae to a subfamily of Euscorpiidae, grouped its Asian genera into the tribe Scorpiopini, and also included the genus *Troglocormus* Francke (tribe Troglocormini) from North America. The subfamily currently forms a monophyletic group within Euscorpiidae, and does not share any synapomorphies with the North American Vaejovidae (Soleglad & Sissom, 2001).

The tribe Scorpiopini includes six Asian genera, mainly from the south and southeast of the continent. Vachon (1980) revised the genus *Scorpiops* Peters, and described three subgenera, *Alloscorpiops* Vachon, *Euscorpiops* Vachon, and *Neoscorpiops* Vachon, in addition to the nominotypic subgenus *Scorpiops*. These four subgenera were later elevated to generic level by Lourenço (1998), accompanying two monotypic genera *Parascorpiops* Banks 1928 and *Dasyscorpiops* Vachon, 1974, thus bringing the total number of genera to six. Kovařík (2000) revised the family Scorpiopidae and recognized five genera: *Alloscorpiops*, *Dasyscorpiops*, *Neoscorpiops*, *Parascorpiops*, and *Scorpiops*. Kovařík (2000) separated *Scorpiops* into three groups: *S. leptochirus* species group, *S. hardwickii* species group, and *S. petersii* species group; and synonymized *Euscorpiops* with *Scorpiops*, suggesting that the former, as defined by Vachon (1980), should be considered invalid as there was a difference of only one external trichobothrium on the patella. Soleglad & Sissom (2001) placed the family Scorpiopidae and the chactid genus *Chactopsis* into the Euscorpiidae, and demonstrated the relationships of the euscorpiid subfamilies as (Euscorpiinae, (Megacorminae, Scorpiopinae)). They restored the genus *Euscorpiops* based of the position of chela trichobothrium *Eb*₃ and the presence of an annular ring on the telson. Kovařík (2005) accepted this division, and considered *Euscorpiops* as a valid genus.

The genus *Scorpiops* is a small group of scorpions comprising 21 species with a narrow distribution in South and Southeast Asia including India, Bhutan, Pakistan, Nepal, Bengal, Malaysia Thailand, Vietnam, Laos and China (Tikader & Bastawade, 1983; Kovařík, 1994, 2004, 2005; Zhu, Qi & Lourenço, 2005).