



A new species of *Alacran* (Scorpiones: Typhlochactidae) from a cave in Oaxaca, Mexico

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Abstract

Alacran chamuco **sp. nov.**, a new eyeless, troglobitic scorpion from Te Cimutaa, Valle Nacional, is described. This is the second known species in the genus; sharing with *Alacran tartarus* a very similar trichobothrial pattern and the lack of “petite” trichobothria—both unique characters in the family Typhlochactidae. The new species differs from *A. tartarus* in the pedipalp finger dentition and the relative size of the telson. The two cave systems in Oaxaca where the two species of *Alacran* occur are approximately 75 kilometers apart.

Key words: Scorpion, troglobite, eyeless, Typhlochactidae, Alacraninae

Resumen

Se describe *Alacran chamuco* **sp. nov.**, nueva especie de escorpión troglobio de Te Cimutaa, Valle Nacional. Esta es la segunda especie conocida del género, compartiendo con *Alacran tartarus* un patrón tricobotrial muy similar y la ausencia de “petite” tricobotrias—ambos caracteres únicos en la familia Typhlochactidae. La nueva especie difiere de *A. tartarus* en la dentición de los dedos de los pedipalpos y en el tamaño relativo del telson. Los dos sistemas de cuevas en Oaxaca donde existe *Alacran* están separados por 75 km.

Palabras clave: Escorpión, troglodita, ciego, Typhlochactidae, Alacraninae

Introduction

The monotypic genus *Alacran* Francke, was described in 1982 from a handful of specimens collected in four very deep caves in the Huautla System, Oaxaca. The family Typhlochactidae Mitchell, 1971 was recently revised (Vignoli & Prendini, 2009), and up-to-date descriptions and identification keys are available for the subfamilies and genera included in it; in addition, the monophyly of these troglomorphic scorpions has been rigorously tested (Prendini *et al.*, in press). Noteworthy additions are (a) the description of a new troglomorphic, non-troglobitic species of *Typhlochactas* Mitchell, 1971, from the state of Queretaro, Mexico (Francke *et al.*, 2009), and the discovery of a second species of troglobitic *Alacran* from the state of Oaxaca (Vignoli & Prendini, 2009), formally described here.

Methods

Nomenclature and mensuration for the most part follow Stahnke (1970); except for the metasomal carinal terminology after Francke (1977), and the pedipalp carinal terminology after Acosta *et al.* (2009).