



Three new pimoid spiders from Sichuan Province, China (Araneae: Pimoidae)

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Abstract

Three new species of pimoid spiders from Sichuan, China are described and illustrated: *Pimoida lata* sp. nov., *Weintrauboa plana* sp. nov. and *W. pollex* sp. nov. Detailed morphological descriptions and illustrations of all three new species are given.

Key words: Taxonomy, cave, southwest China, diversity

Introduction

Pimoidae is one of the smallest spider families in the world, with only 33 described species worldwide (Platnick, 2009). In recent years, some new pimoids have been reported from China, especially from the Sichuan and Yunnan Provinces in southwestern China (Griswold et al., 1999; Yang et al., 2006; Xu & Li, 2007; Hormiga, 2008; Hormiga & Tu, 2008). In the present paper, another three new pimoids from China are added. Besides one cave species, *Pimoida clavata* Xu & Li, 2007, distributed in Beijing of Northern China, all Chinese pimoids are collected from the southwestern Provinces of China. This distribution pattern is consistent with our hypothesis that southwestern China has an extremely high spider diversity (Xu & Li, 2006).

Material and methods

Specimens were examined and measured under an Olympus (Tokyo, Japan) SZ40 stereomicroscope. Further details were studied under an Olympus BX41 compound microscope. All illustrations were made using an Olympus 1.00x drawing tube. Both the male palp and epigynum were examined and illustrated after they were dissected from the spiders' bodies. The male palp and the external structure of the female epigynum were immersed in a 75% alcohol solution for examination and illustration, but were not placed in a KOH solution for expansion. In order to illustrate the interior structure of the epigynum, the ventral and dorsal plates of the epigynum were cut off.

All measurements are given in millimeters. Somatic morphological measurements were taken with the stereomicroscope. Eye diameters were taken at the widest point. The total body length does not include the length of the chelicera or spinnerets. The length and width of the cephalothorax and abdomen were measured in dorsal view, but the height was measured in lateral view. Leg measurements are shown as total length (femur, patella + tibia, metatarsus, tarsus). Left structures (e.g., palp, legs, and chelicera) were measured and described. The position of the metatarsal trichobothrium was expressed as in Denis (1949) and Millidge (1980). The terms used in the text and figures mainly follow Hormiga (1994, 2003). Distribution maps of all