



***Caayguara*, a new genus of huntsman spiders from the Brazilian Atlantic Forest (Araneae: Sparassidae)**

CRISTINA A. RHEIMS

Laboratório de Artrópodes, Instituto Butantan, Av. Vital Brazil 1500, 05503-900, São Paulo, SP, Brazil.

E-mail: cris.rheims@butantan.gov.br

Abstract

Caayguara **gen. nov.** is described to include *Olios albus* Mello-Leitão, 1918 and eleven new species, namely *Caayguara pinda* **sp. nov.**, from Espírito Santo, Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo; *C. juati* **sp. nov.** and *C. apiaba* **sp. nov.**, from Bahia, Minas Gerais and Espírito Santo; *C. ajuba* **sp. nov.**, from Bahia and Espírito Santo; *C. cupepemassu* **sp. nov.**, from Minas Gerais, Espírito Santo, Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Paraná and Rio Grande do Sul; *C. cupepemayri* **sp. nov.** and *C. atyaia* **sp. nov.**, from Rio de Janeiro; *C. itajucamussi* **sp. nov.**, *C. ybytyriguara* **sp. nov.**, *C. poi* **sp. nov.** and *C. catuoca* **sp. nov.**, from São Paulo. The genus seems to be restricted to the Atlantic Forest biome and can be easily distinguished from other Neotropical huntsman genera by the presence of intermarginal denticles on the chelicerae, only two pairs of spines on ventral tibiae and one lateral spine on metatarsi I–II, by the male palps with RTA arising from medial to basal retrolateral tibiae and emboli with keels and projections, and by the female vulvae with the median part of copulatory ducts expanded, forming a sac-like structure, and the posterior part with several linearly arranged lobes. In addition, *Olios albus* is redescribed and the female described for the first time.

Key words: taxonomy, new species, Neotropical region

Introduction

Sparassidae is a large and widespread spider family, currently including 1090 species in 83 genera (Platnick 2010). The taxonomy of the family in the Neotropical region has received growing attention during the past five years and most of the currently known genera have been revised (Jäger 2000; Jäger & Rheims 2008; Jäger *et al.* 2009; Rheims 2007, 2008; Rheims & Jäger 2008; Rheims *et al.* 2008). However, most of the Neotropical species remain to date assigned to the genus *Olios* Walckenaer.

Olios was described by Walckenaer (1837) to include the Mediterranean species *Sparassus argelasius* Walckenaer, 1805 and since its description has been a dump site for all species that could not be assigned to any of the other known genera in the family. To date the genus includes 256 species of which 67 are Neotropical (Platnick 2010). Comparisons between the type species, *O. argelasius*, and those Neotropical species assigned to the genus show that they are clearly not congeneric and should be re-grouped and transferred to new genera. In this paper, the new genus *Caayguara* is described to include *Olios albus* Mello-Leitão, 1918 from Pinheiral, Rio de Janeiro, and eleven new species. The genus seems to be restricted to Brazilian Atlantic Forest biome, with a distribution ranging from southern Bahia to northwestern Rio Grande do Sul. In addition to the description of the new species, *Olios albus* is redescribed and the female is described for the first time.

Material and methods

The material examined for this study is deposited in the following institutions (Abbreviation and curators given in parentheses): Instituto Butantan, São Paulo (IBSP, I. Knysak); Museu de Zoologia, Universidade de