



Five new *Mallinella* species from the Sundaland of Indonesia (Araneae, Zodariidae)

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Abstract

Five new spider species belonging to the genus *Mallinella* Strand, 1906 (Araneae, Zodariidae) are described from the Greater Sunda (Sumatra, Borneo, Java) and adjacent smaller islands (Bali, Palau Belitung). These taxa are *M. abdita* sp. nov. (♂♀, East Kalimantan, Borneo), *M. bifida* sp. nov. (♂♀, East and South Kalimantan, Borneo), *M. insulana* sp. nov. (♂, Bali), and *M. wiputrai* sp. nov. (♂♀, Palau Belitung). Males that were considered by Simon to be conspecific with *Storena melanognatha* van Hasselt, 1882 prove to belong to an unknown species and here described as *Mallinella simoni* sp. nov. (♂, Java and Palau Belitung). New collections from Sundaland confirm that the first species is confined to Sumatra whereas *M. simoni* sp. nov. is hitherto known from Java and Palau Belitung. The known distribution of *Mallinella albomaculata* Bosmans & Hillyard, 1990, mentioned from Sulawesi, is here extended to the island of Borneo; the internal epigyne structure of this species is described and illustrated for the first time.

Key words: Java, Bali, Sumatra, Kalimantan, Borneo, Palau Belitung, biodiversity, new record, *Asceua*, *Storena*

Introduction

Indonesia, located between the Oriental region and the Australian region, can be divided into three different sub-regions: Sundaland, Wallacea and Australia. Politically, the Sundaland covers the southern tip of Thailand; all of the Peninsular Malaysia, the island of Borneo (the Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak), the entire western half of the highly diverse country of Indonesia, including Kalimantan (the Indonesian portion of Borneo), Sumatra, Java, and Bali and the Nicobar Islands, which are under Indian authority. The boundary between the Sundaland and the Indo-Burma to the northwest is known as the Kangar-Pattani Line, which crosses the Thailand-Malaysia border. Wallacea lies immediately to the east of the Sundaland, separated by Wallace's Line, while the islands of the Philippines lie immediately to the northeast. The islands of Sundaland were once connected to mainland Asia. As sea levels changed during the Pleistocene this land connection disappeared, eventually leading to the current isolation of the islands. These islands can be characterized by densely forested volcanic mountains extending throughout the length of the islands in the east-west direction, creating series of valleys running north-south. Many of the islands contain sites of exceptional biodiversity providing habitats with numerous rare or endangered animal and plant species.

The Indonesian islands have long been known in the history of arachnology for their important localities of several spider species from the Far East. Among them are eight zodariid species described in early 20th century: *Cryptothele sunaica javana* Kulczyn'ski, 1911, *Storena dispar* Kulczyn'ski, 1911, *S. fasciata* Kulczyn'ski, 1911, *S. hiliaris* Thorell, 1890, *S. kraepelini* Simon, 1905, *S. melanognatha* van Hasselt, 1882, *S. quinquestrigata* Simon, 1905, and *S. vicaria* Kulczyn'ski, 1911. However, *Storena* is an endemic Australian genus and its distribution is mostly confined to that continent (Baehr & Jocqué 1994; Jocqué & Baehr 1992). Consequently, five species that had previously been collected from localities in Java and originally misplaced in the genus *Storena* are transferred to *Mallinella* and *Asceua* (Dankittipakul & Jocqué, in preparation).