



A new species of *Draconarius* Ovtchinnikov, 1999 (Araneae, Amaurobioidea, Coelotinae) from Northern Pakistan

YURI M. MARUSIK¹ & FRANCESCO BALLARIN²

¹Institute for Biological Problems of the North, RAS, Portovaya Str. 18, Magadan 685000, Russia. E-mail: yurmar@mail.ru

²Museo Civico di Storia Naturale di Verona, Lungadige Porta Vittoria, 9-37129, Verona, Italy.

E-mail: ballarin.francesco@gmail.com

Abstract

A new species *Draconarius latellai* n. sp. is described on the basis of two sexes from Northern Pakistan. It belongs to *D. venustus* species group and most similar to the generotype *D. venustus* Ovtchinnikov, 1999. The new species is compared with three other species occurring in Central Asia: *D. venustus* (Tajikistan), *D. naranensis* Ovtchinnikov, 2005 and *D. pakistanicus* Ovtchinnikov, 2005 (both from Northern Pakistan). Key to the four Central Asian species is provided and illustrations of all species are given.

Key words: Northern Areas, Gilgit-Baltistan, male palp, epigyne, Agelenidae, Amaurobiidae, Coelotidae

Introduction

Draconarius Ovtchinnikov, 1999 is the most species rich genus in the Coelotinae, a group treated as a subfamily either in Agelenidae (Lehtinen, 1967) or Amaurobiidae (cf. Platnick, 2010), or as family of its own (Ono, 2008; Nishikawa, 2009). Over 200 species of *Draconarius* are currently recognized (Platnick, 2010; Wang, 2010). The known range of the genus stretches from western Tajikistan to Korea, and south to Thailand.

While studying the material collected from the northern Pakistan we found three specimens that are similar to the type species of *Draconarius*, although the male palp and epigyne have clearly different shape. The main goal of this paper is to describe this new species. Only two species of *Draconarius* (*D. naranensis* Ovtchinnikov, 2005 and *D. pakistanicus* Ovtchinnikov, 2005) are known from Pakistan.

Material and methods

Specimens were photographed using an Olympus Camedia E-520 camera attached to an Olympus SZX16 stereomicroscope. The images were montaged using “CombineZM” image stacking software. Photographs were taken in dishes of different size with paraffin at the bottom. Different sized holes were made in the bottom to keep the specimens in the correct position. Figures of *D. venustus*, *D. naranensis* and *D. pakistanicus* from Ovtchinnikov (1999) and Ovtchinnikov & Inayatullah (2005) are reproduced here with permission. The epigyne was macerated in KOH. All measurements are given in mm. Type material will be deposited in Museo Civico di Storia Naturale di Verona, Italy (MSNV).

Draconarius latellai n. sp.

Figs 1–12,

Type material. Holotype ♂ (MSNV) PAKISTAN, Northern Areas [= Gilgit-Baltistan administrative unit], Gilgit Dist., Bagrot Valley, Burche Glacier, 36°00'19.8"N 74°32'28.4"E, 27.10.2008 (L. Latella). Paratypes: 2 ♀♀ (MSNV), Northern Areas, Gilgit Dist., Naltar Valley, 36°11'2.4"N 74°9'12.7"E, 1.11.2008 (L. Latella, R. Ahmed).