



Revision of the spider genera *Nilus* O. Pickard-Cambridge 1876, *Sphedanus* Thorell 1877 and *Dendrolycosa* Doleschall 1859 (Araneae: Pisauridae)

PETER JÄGER

Senckenberg Research Institute, Arachnology, Senckenberganlage 25, 60325 Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

E-mail: peter.jaeger@senckenberg.de

Table of contents

Abstract	2
Material and methods	3
Taxonomy	3
Pisauridae Simon 1890	3
Thalassinae Simon 1898	3
<i>Nilus</i> O. Pickard-Cambridge 1876	4
<i>Nilus curtus</i> O. Pickard-Cambridge 1876	4
<i>Nilus decoratus</i> (Patel & Reddy 1990) comb. nov.	4
<i>Nilus oblongus</i> Pavesi 1897, nomen dubium	5
<i>Nilus kochi</i> Roewer 1951	5
Misplaced species	7
<i>Architis amazonica</i> (Simon 1898) comb. nov.	7
Pisaurinae Simon 1898	7
<i>Sphedanus</i> Thorell 1877	7
<i>Sphedanus undatus</i> Thorell 1877	10
<i>Dendrolycosa</i> Doleschall 1859	10
<i>Dendrolycosa cruciata</i> (Roewer 1955)	11
<i>Dendrolycosa stauntoni</i> Pocock 1900 nomen dubium	13
<i>Dendrolycosa spadicularia</i> (Simon 1897) comb. nov. nomen dubium	13
<i>Dendrolycosa gitae</i> (Tikader 1970) comb. nov.	13
<i>Dendrolycosa bobbiliensis</i> (Reddy & Patel 1993) comb. nov.	13
<i>Dendrolycosa robusta</i> (Thorell 1895)	14
<i>Dendrolycosa songi</i> (Zhang 2000) comb. nov.	17
<i>Dendrolycosa bairdi</i> spec. nov.	18
<i>Dendrolycosa duckitti</i> spec. nov.	21
<i>Dendrolycosa lepida</i> (Thorell 1890)	25
<i>Dendrolycosa putiana</i> (Barrion & Litsinger 1995) comb. nov.	27
<i>Dendrolycosa parangbusta</i> (Barrion & Litsinger 1995) comb. nov.	27
<i>Dendrolycosa fusca</i> Doleschall 1859	27
<i>Dendrolycosa inquirenda</i> (Strand 1911) comb. nov. nomen dubium	28
<i>Dendrolycosa sierwaldae</i> spec. nov.	30
<i>Dendrolycosa yuka</i> spec. nov.	31
<i>Dendrolycosa icadia</i> (L. Koch 1876)	32
<i>Dendrolycosa ornata</i> (Berland 1924) comb. nov.	35
Misplaced species	36
<i>Hygropoda gracilis</i> (Thorell 1891) comb. nov.	36
<i>Hygropoda sikkimus</i> (Tikader 1970) comb. nov.	36
<i>Hygropoda chandrakantii</i> (Reddy & Patel 1993) comb. nov.	36
Acknowledgements	36
References	36

Abstract

The genera *Nilus* O. Pickard-Cambridge 1876, *Sphedanus* Thorell 1877 and *Dendrolycosa* Doleschall 1859 are revised. *Nilus* is recognised as junior synonym of *Thalassius* Simon 1885; accordingly all species previously placed in *Thalassius* including *nomina dubia* are transferred to *Nilus*. *Nilus curtus* O. Pickard-Cambridge 1876 is recognised as senior synonym of *Thalassius spinosissimus* Karsch 1879. *Nilus decoratus* (Patel & Reddy) **comb. nov.** from India is transferred from *Pisaura* Simon 1885. *Nilus amazonicus* Simon 1898 from Brazil is transferred to the genus *Architis* Simon 1898: *Architis amazonica* (Simon 1898) **comb. nov.** *Nilus oblongus* Pavesi 1897 from Ethiopia and *N. marginatus* (Simon 1888) from the Andaman Islands are considered *nomina dubia*. *Sphedanus* Thorell 1877 is removed from the synonymy with *Nilus* and recognised as a senior synonym of *Eurychoera* Thorell 1897. The type species, *S. undatus* Thorell 1877, is redescribed and its copulatory organs are illustrated for the first time. Two species previously placed in the genus *Eurychoera* are transferred: *Sphedanus banna* (Zhang, Zhu & Song 2004) **comb. nov.** and *Sphedanus quadrimaculatus* (Thorell 1897) **comb. nov.** *Campostichommides* Strand 1911 and *Dianpisaura* Zhang, Zhu & Song 2004 are recognised as junior synonyms of *Dendrolycosa*. *Nilus lanceolatus* Simon 1898 and *Pisaura lizhii* Zhang 2000 are proposed as junior synonyms of *Dendrolycosa robusta* Thorell 1895. Four species are described as new: *D. bairdi* **spec. nov.** from Laos (male, female), *D. duckitti* **spec. nov.** from Laos (male, female), *D. sierwaldae* **spec. nov.** from New Guinea (female) and *D. yuka* **spec. nov.** from Australia (female). Eight species previously placed in the genera *Nilus*, *Campostichommides* Strand 1911, *Pisaura* Simon 1885 and *Dianpisaura* Zhang, Zhu & Song 2004, respectively are transferred to *Dendrolycosa*: *D. ornata* (Berland 1924) **comb. nov.** from New Caledonia, *D. spadicaria* (Simon 1897) **comb. nov.** from India (*nomen dubium*), *D. bobbiliensis* (Reddy & Patel 1993) **comb. nov.** from India, *D. gitae* (Tikader 1970) **comb. nov.** from India, *D. inquirenda* (Strand 1911) **comb. nov. nomen dubium** from Indonesia, *D. parangbusta* (Barrion & Litsinger 1995) **comb. nov.** from Philippines, *D. putiana* (Barrion & Litsinger 1995) **comb. nov.** from Philippines, *D. songi* (Zhang 2000) **comb. nov.** from Yunnan, China. *Dendrolycosa stauntoni* Pocock 1900 is considered a *nomen dubium*. One species originally described in *Dendrolycosa* is transferred to the genus *Hygropoda*: *H. gracilis* (Thorell 1891) **comb. nov.** Two species previously placed in the genus *Tinus* F. O. Pickard-Cambridge 1901 are transferred to *Hygropoda*: *H. sikkimus* (Tikader 1970) **comb. nov.**, *H. chandrakantii* (Reddy & Patel 1993) **comb. nov.**

Key words: Transfers, taxonomy, synonymy, new species, *Campostichommides*, *Dianpisaura*, *Pisaura*, *Thalassius*, *Hygropoda*, *Tinus*, *Architis*, Southeast Asia, Africa, Australia

Introduction

The family Pisauridae Simon 1890 is a diverse group of spiders with various life styles: some species are hunters on the water surface (e.g. *Dolomedes* spp.) or on the ground or vegetation (e.g. *Pisaura* spp.), some are web-builders. Most web-building representatives move on the web surface (e.g. *Dendrolycosa* spp.), *Sphedanus* spiders hang upside down or run under their sheet web. General treatments were published by Sierwald (1989, 1997). African species were revised by Blandin (e.g. Blandin 1976), American species by Carico and Santos (e.g. Carico 1993, Santos 2007). Davies (1982) and Davies & Raven (1980) described two new genera from Australia: *Inola* and *Megadolomedes* respectively. Asian Pisauridae has never been subject of thorough systematic revisions, although restricted regions and taxa have been considered (Sierwald 1987: *Thalassius*; Sierwald 1997: *Perenethis*, *Polyboea*; Zhang *et al.* 2004: Pisauridae in China; Dankittipakul *et al.* 2008: *Hygropoda* in Thailand). Jäger (2007) published the first records from *Eurychoera banna* Zhang, Zhu & Song 2004 from Laos and illustrated copulatory organs of both *E. banna* and the type species, *E. quadrimaculata* Thorell 1897 from Singapore, the male of the latter for the first time. Jäger (2010) recognised the synonymy of *Hesydrimorpha* Strand 1911 with *Papakula* Strand 1911.

The present revisionary work started with the description of two new species from Laos. As other genera were involved and recognised as synonyms, the study was extended to avoid any further confusion in this systematic complex. The present paper gives an overview of all three genera, provides diagnoses (where possible), new synonymies and transfers. From the diversity currently known it is assumed that more species exist especially in the genus *Dendrolycosa*. Revision of further genera was beyond the scope of this study. The large genus *Hygropoda* for instance, is surely a serious candidate for a future taxonomic revision as the type species has never been illustrated in recent times.