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Two new species of the spider genus *Antoonops* (Araneae: Oonopidae), with a key to the known species

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Abstract

Two new species of the goblin spider genus Antoonops are described, bringing the total number of species to six. Antoonoops kamieli sp. nov. is described from two males and one female collected in Bouaké, Ivory Coast. The species can be easily distinguished from congeners by its large eyes. In addition, the males are characterized by a distinct depression on the ventral abdomen. Antoonops sarae sp. nov. is described from four females collected in Tchabal Mbabo, Cameroon. The species is unusual in having a long postepigastric scutum and a genital duct with finger-like protrusions. A key to the species of Antoonops is provided.

Key words: Dysderoidea, Haplogynae, PBI, taxonomy

Introduction

The goblin spider genus Antonops Fannes & Jocqué (2008) is endemic to West-Africa, where it has been recorded from Ivory Coast in the west to Nigeria in the east (Fig. 1). The species of this genus are convincing ant-mimics, with a constricted abdomen (Fig. 2A-E) and sometimes a color pattern on the dorsal scutum (Fig. 2F, G). They also show a marked sexual dimorphism, with males having a higher carapace and a more strongly constricted abdomen (Fig. 2A, B; Fannes & Jocqué 2008).

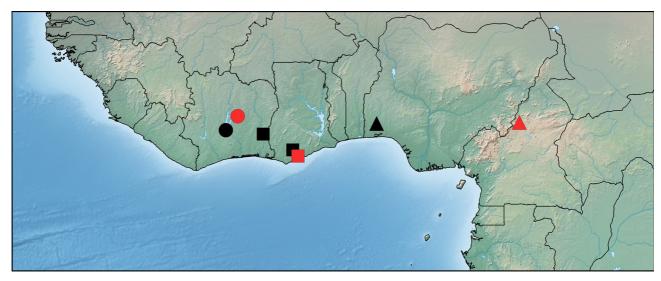


FIGURE 1. Map of West Africa indicating the distribution of Antoonops corbulo Fannes & Jocqué, 2008 (black squares), A. bouaflensis Fannes & Jocqué, 2008 (black circle), A. iita Fannes & Jocqué, 2008 (black triangle), A. nebula Fannes & Jocqué, 2008 (red square), A. kamieli n. sp. (red circle), and A. sarae n. sp. (red triangle).