



On the spider genus *Thymoites* in the Neotropical Region (Araneae, Theridiidae): nine new species, complementary descriptions and new records

EVERTON NEI LOPES RODRIGUES¹ & ANTONIO D. BRESCOVIT²

¹Laboratório de Diversidade e Sistemática de Arachnida. Programa de Pós-Graduação em Biologia, Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos. Av. Unisinos, 950, Cristo Rei, 93022-000 São Leopoldo, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. E-mail: enlrodrigues@unisinos.br

²Laboratório Especial de Coleções Zoológicas, Instituto Butantan. Av. Vital Brazil, 1500, 05503-900 São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil

Abstract

The theridiid genus *Thymoites* Keyserling, 1884 is distributed worldwide. Spiders of this genus are mainly known from the Neotropical Region, but are poorly studied in Brazil. In this paper nine new species of *Thymoites* are described from Brazil, one from the state of Alagoas: *Thymoites murici* n. sp.; two from São Paulo: *T. bocaina* n. sp., *T. ilhabela* n. sp. and *T. taiobeiras* n. sp. from states of Minas Gerais and São Paulo; one from the state of Santa Catarina: *Thymoites tabuleiro* n. sp.; and, three from state of Rio Grande do Sul: *Thymoites cristal* n. sp., *T. camaqua* n. sp. and *T. piratini* n. sp., all based on males and females; and one from the state of Rio de Janeiro: *T. pinheiral* n. sp. based on male. The male of *Thymoites puer* (Mello-Leitão, 1941) and the female of *T. melloleitaoni* (Bristowe, 1938) are here described and illustrated for the first time. Additionally, new records from Brazil are provided for *Thymoites ilvan* Levi, 1964 for state of Santa Catarina; *T. iritus* Levi, 1964 for state of Goiás; *T. piarco* (Levi, 1959) for state of Amazonas; and, *T. struthio* (Simon, 1895) for Bolivia.

Key words: Theridiinae, Neotropical Region, spider taxonomy, Brazil, Bolivia

Introduction

The genus *Thymoites* Keyserling, 1884 was described from the type species *Thymoites crassipes* Keyserling, 1884 from Peru. Males of *Thymoites* are easily recognized by often having a modified ocular area, with modified projections, elevated and sometimes with the clypeus having a transverse groove; the abdomen is sometimes more heavily sclerotized. The females do not have projections in carapace, epigynum less sclerotized, normally elongated ducts and colulus absent. Both males and females are under 2.5 mm in total length (Levi & Levi, 1962; Levi, 1964; Levi & Randolph, 1975; Marques & Buckup, 1992).

The species of the genus *Thymoites* Keyserling, 1884 are distributed worldwide (World Spider Catalog, 2014). Spiders of this genus were mainly known from the Neotropical Region, but are poorly studied in Brazil. In Brazil, were described from Northern region: *Thymoites cravilus* Marques & Buckup, 1992 (Roraima), *T. maracayensis* Levi, 1964 (Amazonas and Roraima) and *T. piarco* (Levi, 1959) (Pará); from Southeast region: *T. anicus* Levi, 1964, *T. ilvan* Levi, 1964, *T. ipiranga* Levi, 1964, *T. palo* Levi, 1967 (all for São Paulo), *T. iritus* Levi, 1964 (Espírito Santo) and *T. mirus* Levi, 1964 (Rio de Janeiro) and from Southern region: *T. aloitus* Levi, 1964, *T. ebus* Levi, 1964, *T. melloleitaoni* (Bristowe, 1938), *T. puer* (Mello-Leitão, 1941), *T. rarus* (Keyserling, 1886) (all for Santa Catarina) and *T. promatensis* Lise & Silva, 2009 (Rio Grande do Sul) (World Spider Catalog, 2014).

In this paper nine new species of *Thymoites* from Brazil are described and illustrated, one from Alagoas state, two from São Paulo, one from the São Paulo and Minas Gerais states, one Santa Catarina state and three from Rio Grande do Sul state, all based on males and females; and one from Rio de Janeiro state based on male. The male of *Thymoites puer* (Mello-Leitão, 1941) and the female of *T. melloleitaoni* (Bristowe, 1938) are here described and illustrated for the first time. Additionally, new records from Brazil and Bolivia are provided for several *Thymoites* species.