Redescription of "Amaurobius" rufipes Taczanowski, 1874 (Araneae: Corinnidae) with notes of Amaurobius species described from French Guyana

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Amaurobius rufipes Taczanowski, 1874 was described on the basis of a syntype series consisting of two males, two females and some juveniles collected in Cayenne, French Guyana (Taczanowski 1874). Simon (1898) doubted this species belonged to Amaurobius and thought that it was related to the Corinna species group: "C'est probablement aussi au groupe des Corinna qu'appartiennent les especes de la Guyane decrites par Taczanowski sous les noms d'Amaurobius cayanus, rufipes, brevis, et hirtus Tacz.". Lehtinen (1967), who possibly studied the types, transferred A. rufipes and other Amaurobius species described from Guyana by Taczanowski into Corinnidae, although new combinations were not suggested. In the World Spider Catalog (Platnick 2014), this species is listed as "Amaurobius" rufipes among Corinnidae as incertae sedis. It is likely that no-one has studied the types of Guyanese "Amaurobius", and Corinnidae from Guyana have never been revised or mentioned in taxonomic publications (e.g. Bonaldo 2000).

While studying collections in the Zoological Museum of the University of Turku, Finland, we found one vial with the syntype female of A. rufipes, apparently borrowed by Pekka Lehtinen when he was working on his worldwide revision of cribellate spiders (Lehtinen 1967). The goal of this paper is to redescribe and provide the first illustrations of this species and to establish new combinations for A. rufipes and related (according to Simon [1898]) species.

Photographs were taken using an Olympus SZX16 stereomicroscope with an Olympus E-520 camera and prepared using CombineZP software at the Zoological Museum of the University of Turku. Here we used our own terminology for the description of epigyne morphology. We thank Seppo Koponen for providing working facilities in the Zoological Museum, University of Turku. Thanks to two anonymous reviewers for helpful comments on a draft of the manuscript. English of the earlier draft was kindly checked and corrected by Sarah Crews (Oakland, California, USA).

Abapeba rufipes (Taczanowski, 1874) comb. n.
Figs 1–10

Amaurobius rufipes Taczanowski, 1874: 80 (♂♀).
?Corinna rufipes: Simon 1898: 200 (suggested as belonging to Corinna).
"Amaurobius" rufipes: Platnick 2014 (incertae sedis in Corinnidae).
Amaurobius rufipes: World Spider Catalog 2015 (incertae sedis in Amaurobiidae).


Note. The species is transferred to Corinnidae and not to the similar looking Trachelidae because it has numerous and well-developed spines, which are generally lacking in Trachelidae. Amaurobius rufipes does not fit into any genus presented in a key of the Neotropical Corininae (Bonaldo 2000). We decided to provisionally place A. rufipes in Abapeba Bonaldo, 2000 due to similarities of the endogyne of A. rufipes and A. rioclaro Bonaldo, 2000, although A. rufipes lacks clavate hairs covering the body.