

A new Afrotropical *Ogovea* (Opiliones, Cyphophthalmi) from Cameroon, with a discussion on the taxonomic characters in the family Ogoveidae

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Abstract

A new species of the genus *Ogovea* is described and illustrated, *Ogovea cameroonensis* n. sp. from Yaoundé. This species considerably enlarges the distribution range of the family Ogoveidae towards the Northeast. The new species, only known from its type locality in Cameroon, is the first described cyphophthalmid for that country. A new diagnosis for the family Ogoveidae is provided and a putative relationship of *Ogovea* with the South American genus *Huitaca* is rejected.

Key words: Cyphophthalmi, Ogoveidae, *Ogovea*, *Huitaca*, Cameroon, Equatorial West Africa

Introduction

The cyphophthalmid fauna of equatorial West Africa includes a few members classified in the families Ogoveidae Shear, 1980 and Neogoveidae Shear, 1980 (Juberthie 1969; Shear 1980; Giribet 2000). The family Ogoveidae currently includes the genera *Ogovea* Roewer, 1923 from equatorial West Africa (Hansen and Sørensen 1904; Hansen 1921) and *Huitaca* Shear, 1979 from the neotropics (Colombia) (Shear 1979), although the monophyly of Ogoveidae has been recently questioned (Giribet and Boyer 2002), with *Huitaca* probably belonging to the Neogoveidae.

After examination of the cyphophthalmid material from museum collections, including the type material of the two previously known species of the genus *Ogovea*, a new species from Cameroon is described. This species represents the first cyphophthalmid for that