

## A new myrmecophilous *Allochernes* (Arachnida: Pseudoscorpiones: Chernetidae) from Catalunya, Spain

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### Abstract

*Allochernes deceuninckorum* sp.n., a new myrmecophilous pseudoscorpion from Catalunya, Spain, is described.

**Key words:** Pseudoscorpion, *Allochernes deceuninckorum* sp.n., Catalunya, Spain

### Introduction

In October and December 2002 the first author examined nests of the ant *Camponotus (Tanaemyrmex) sylvaticus* (Olivier, 1792) in the area of Roses (Catalunya, Spain). In a remote bay, Cala Murtra, specimens of a chernetid pseudoscorpion were found in some of these nests. The occurrence of pseudoscorpions in nests of Hymenoptera, especially bees, termites and ants, is well known (Beier, 1948; Ressler, 1974). *Allochernes wideri* (C.L. Koch, 1843) is occasionally found in nests of *Formica* and *Lasius* species (Leclerc & Heurtault, 1979), but this species is not limited to these biotopes (Beier, 1948; Ressler, 1974). Some pseudoscorpions are restricted to ant nests. *Chernes vicinus* (Beier, 1931) develops in the woodnests of *Lasius fuliginosus* (Cooreman, 1947; Henderickx, 1999) and *Myrmecowithius wahrmani* Beier, 1963 is restricted to nests of *Messor semirufus* Forel, 1880 (Beier, 1963).

The Catalan specimens belong to a previously unknown species of *Allochernes* Beier, 1932. Morphological characteristics distinguish the specimens from all other members of this genus, hence they are described as a new species.