

Description of *Catumiri* n. gen. and three new species (Theraphosidae: Ischnocolinae)

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ABSTRACT

The new Ischnocolinae genus *Catumiri* is described. The species *Cenobiopelma argentinense* (Mello-Leitão, 1934), considered a junior synonym of *Oligoxystre* Vellard, 1924, is transferred to the present genus. Three new species are also described: *C. chicoi* n. sp., from south of Bahia, Una; *C. petropolium* n. sp., from Petrópolis, Rio de Janeiro (type species); and *C. uruguayense* n. sp., from Lavalleja, Uruguay. Diagnosis, zoogeographical distribution and an identification key are provided for all species.

Key words: new genus, systematics, Mygalomorphae

INTRODUCTION

The Theraphosidae subfamily Ischnocolinae has a problematic taxonomy and had been considered to be paraphyletic (Raven, 1985). Ausserer (1871) described the genus *Ischnocolus* (type-genus) based on the divided tarsal scopula. The character state “divided scopula”, although considered a good taxonomic tool (Ausserer, 1871; Simon, 1889; Gerschman & Schiapelli, 1973a), is plesiomorphic for the tarsal scopula (Pérez-Miles, 1992). The early instars of all Theraphosidae present this plesiomorphic state, and some juvenile specimens were wrongly described within the Ischnocolinae (Pérez-Miles, 1992). This problem was partially clarified when Raven (1985) considered the Ischnocolinae a paraphyletic group that needed to be revised at the genus level and have their monophyletic units determined. The subfamily Ischnocolinae has broadest zoogeographical distribution of all other Theraphosidae subfamilies: northern and central Africa, Middle-East, Mediterranean region of Europe, Central and South America and Antilles (Smith, 1990; Rudloff, 1997; Vol, 2001).