

The spiders of Québec: update, additions and corrections

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Abstract

The taxonomic knowledge of the spider fauna of Québec (Canada) is updated with new records, corrections, recent taxonomic changes, and additions to the species list. Illustrations are provided for species not previously reported for the province. The following species are reported for the first time: Araneidae: *Araneus iviei* (Archer 1951), *Araneus juniperi* (Emerton 1884), *Araneus thaddeus* (Hentz 1847), *Araneus washingtoni* Levi 1971; Clubionidae: *Elaver excepta* (L. Koch 1866); Dictynidae: *Emblyna chitina* (Chamberlin & Gertsch 1958); Gnaphosidae: *Zelotes exiguoides* Platnick & Shadab 1983, *Haplodrassus eunis* Chamberlin 1922; Linyphiidae: *Centromerus cornupalpis* O. Pickard-Cambridge 1875, *Ceratinopsis nigripalpis* Emerton 1882, *Eridantes utibilis* Crosby & Bishop 1933, *Pocadicnemis pumila* (Blackwall 1841), *Sciastes extremus* Holm 1967, *Scotinotylus vernalis* (Emerton 1882), *Thyreosthenius parasiticus* (Westring 1851); Nesticidae: *Nesticus cellulanus* (Clerck 1757); Philodromidae: *Philodromus histrio* (Latreille 1819), *Philodromus oneida* Levi 1951; Salticidae: *Pellenes montanus* (Emerton 1894), *Synageles canadensis* Cutler 1988; Tetragnathidae: *Tetragnatha guatemalensis* O. Pickard-Cambridge 1889; Theridiidae: *Achaearanea conjuncta* (Gertsch & Mulaik 1936), *Enoplognatha intrepida* (Sørensen 1898), *Euryopsis gertschi* Levi 1951, *Pholcomma hirsutum* Thorell 1869, *Theridion impressum* L. Koch 1881; Thomisidae: *Xysticus fraternus* Banks 1895, and Zodariidae: *Zodarion rubidum* Simon 1914. Collecting data, overview of distribution, and a diagnosis are provided for each added species. The spider fauna of Québec is discussed in light of these new records, and the value of such faunistic/taxonomic work is stressed.

Key words. Spider fauna, identification, diagnoses, disjunct distribution, faunistic

Introduction

The spider fauna of Québec has recently benefited from important publications including faunistic lists (Bélanger & Hutchinson 1992, Hutchinson & Bélanger 1994, Paquin *et al.* 2001) and a monograph dedicated to the identification of all the known species, and many of the probable species for the province (Paquin & Dupérré 2003). We provide here an update to these contributions. More precisely, the goal of the present paper is threefold: (i) to report new provincial records for Québec; (ii) to provide corrections to the identification manual of Paquin & Dupérré (2003); and (iii) to incorporate records from other publications. In this faunistic quest, we aim to provide accurate and reliable illustrations to recognize and distinguish every species of Québec. To complement Paquin & Dupérré (2003), we provide illustrations with comparable angles and style to facilitate identification. Finally, we review previous estimates about the expected number of species for the province and propose an updated version.

Methods

Specimens were studied in 70% ethanol under a SMZ-U Nikon dissection scope. A Nikon