

Discovery of the spider family Desidae (Araneae) in South China, with description of a new species of the genus *Badumna* Thorell, 1890

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Abstract

A new species of the genus *Badumna* Thorell, 1890, from Yunnan Province, China is described under the name of *B. tangae* sp. nov. This is the first Desidae spider discovered and described from China. The new species is similar to *B. insignis* (L. Koch, 1872) occurring in Japan, Australia and New Zealand. But it differs from the latter by ALE largest; female with epigynal transverse ridge wide and triangular, copulatory ducts with three coils; male palpal tibia with a small, apico-medially placed, retrolateral ventral apophysis.

Key words: cribellate spider, Indo-Australian region, Mt. Gaoligong, taxonomy

Introduction

The spider family Desidae was erected by Pocock (1895) for the genus *Desis*. But the family was ignored for a long time. Most genera were originally placed either in the Agelenidae C. L. Koch 1837 or in the Amaurobiidae Thorell 1870. Roth (1967) revalidated the family, but only the nominative genus *Desis* was included. Although a detailed diagnosis for the family of New Zealand was given by Forster (1970), many problems are still unresolved (Brignoli 1983; Murphy & Murphy 2000; Platnick 2005).

According to Platnick (2005), Desidae is a small family comprising 38 genera and 180 species, most of them occurring in the Australian region. Only 3 genera and 8 species were recorded from Asia, which are *Badumna* Thorell (4 species), *Desis* Walckenaer (3 species) and *Paratheuma* Bryant (1 species). There are no desid records for the Chinese spider fauna.