



A new Tricommatinae from the montane savanna of São Paulo (Opiliones: Laniatores: Gonyleptidae)

ADRIANO B. KURY

Departamento de Invertebrados, Museu Nacional/UFRJ, Quinta da Boa Vista, São Cristóvão, 20.940-040, Rio de Janeiro - RJ - BRAZIL.

Abstract

A new species of the genus *Pseudopachylus* — *P. martensi* — is described from São José do Barreiro, São Paulo State, Brazil. *Olynthus alticola* H. Soares, 1945, from Alto da Serra, also in the São Paulo State, is transferred to *Pseudopachylus*. The genus *Pseudopachylus* now comprises six species.

Key words: Harvestmen, neotropical, WWF Ecoregions NT0160, NT0703, Atlantic Forest, Brazilian arachnofauna

Introduction

Tricommatinae are small Gonyleptidae characterized mainly by sexually dimorphic modifications in the ventral surface of basal segments of leg IV. They can be found amidst leaf litter, loose earth and beneath rotten logs. After an early period in which Andean, Indo-Malayan and European species were also included (e. g. Roewer 1935; 1963), the current diagnosis includes 50 species which inhabit Brazilian Atlantic Forest and neighboring floral formations, including small portions of Paraguay and Argentina (Kury 2003). In museum collections they are typically represented by very small series and in a succession of collecting trips conducted by the arachnological team of the Brazilian National Museum in the last ten years they were also found to be by far much less abundant than their larger counterparts (such as Pachylinae and Gonyleptinae) with a few exceptions. Sifting leaf litter seems to be the best way of discovering Tricommatinae and this method yielded many representatives of *Cryptogeobius crassipes* Mello-Leitão, 1935, one of such exceptions from Rio de Janeiro. Preliminary study on this subfamily revealed at least 40 undescribed species which are currently under study, most of them in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro States in Brazil.