



A new species of the false-scorpion family Cheliferidae from Thailand, with remarks on *Ancistrochelifer* and *Metachelifer* (Arachnida: Pseudoscorpiones)

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Abstract

A new species of Cheliferidae is described from Thailand: ?*Dactylochelifer martensi* **sp. n.** *Ancistrochelifer orientalis* (Beier, 1967), **comb. n.** ex *Hysterochelifer* Chamberlin, 1932, a subcortical pseudoscorpion from northern Thailand, is redescribed. The status of the genus *Metachelifer* Redikorzev, 1938 is briefly discussed in connection with *Metachelifer nepalensis* (Beier, 1974), **nom. revalid.** & **comb. n.** ex *Hysterochelifer*, and *Metachelifer macrotuberculatus* (Krumpal, 1987), **comb. n.** ex *Dactylochelifer* Beier, 1932.

Key words: Pseudoscorpions, *Dactylochelifer*, new combination, revalidation

Introduction

Through the kindness of Dr Wolfgang Schawaller (Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde, Stuttgart, Germany), I have recently been privileged to study the small collection (three specimens, SMNS 3053) of Cheliferidae from Thailand that Schawaller (1994) identified as representing *Hysterochelifer orientalis* Beier, 1967. A profound study of this material, however, shows that they actually belong to two species, both described here: ?*Dactylochelifer martensi* **sp. n.** and *Ancistrochelifer orientalis* (Beier, 1967), **comb. n.**

The false-scorpion genus *Ancistrochelifer* Beier, 1951 was originally established for two species: *A. agniae* Beier, 1951 (type-species) from Cambodia and Vietnam, and *A. tuberculatus* Beier, 1951 from Laos (Beier 1951). A third congener is to be added here because of a revision of the female holotype of *Hysterochelifer orientalis* from Doi Suthep, northern Thailand, a species also represented by one of the SMNS male topotypes. Based on both male and female traits, *Ancistrochelifer orientalis* differs well from the former two species primarily in the structure of leg I. *Ancistrochelifer* is clearly