



***Utivarachna rama* sp. n., a new species of tracheline spiders (Araneae: Corinnidae) from Thailand**

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Abstract

A new species of tracheline spiders, *Utivarachna rama* Chami-Kranon & Likhitrakarn **sp. n.**, is described. The types were collected from pristine forests of the Doi Inthanon National Park, Chiang Mai Province, northern Thailand. The new species belongs to the *kinabaluensis*-group and can be distinguished from its congeners by the gradually tapering retrolateral tibial apophysis of the male palp, and by the posteriorly rounded epigynal atrium, the reniform spermathecae, and the anterior bursae with long, narrow necks in females. *Utivarachna rama* **sp. n.** is closely related to *U. bucculenta* Deeleman-Reinhold, 2001 and *U. kinabaluensis* Deeleman-Reinhold, 2001.

Key words: Taxonomy, *kinabaluensis*-group, Doi Inthanon National Park, cloud forest, high altitude fauna

Introduction

The Trachelinae is one of the smaller subfamilies of the spider family Corinnidae Karsch, 1880. Platnick & Ewing (1995) revised the tracheline spiders of the New World and stated that their taxonomy is still unsatisfactory. Platnick & Ewing (1995) and Ramírez *et al.* (2001) considered *Cetonana* Strand, *Meriola* Banks, *Trachelas* L. Koch, and *Trachelopachys* Simon to be true trachelines. Bosselaers & Jocqué (2000) added *Thysanina* Simon, while the presence of ventral leg cusps, as well as the cladogram in Bosselaers & Jocqué (2002) suggest that *Lessertina* Lawrence also belongs to the Trachelinae. Two African genera, *Brachyphaea* Simon (8 species) and *Pronophaea* Simon (1 species), were also listed in the Trachelinae by Dippenaar-Schoeman & Jocqué (1997), but they should be transferred to the Corinninae (Haddad & Bosselaers, pers. comm.). In conclusion, the subfamily currently encompasses approximately 169 described species in nine genera: *Austrachelas* Lawrence (Africa, 2 species); *Cetonana* (Europe, Africa, Asia and South America, 11 species); *Lessertina* (Africa, 1 species); *Meriola* (America, 24 species); *Paccius* Simon (Africa, 8 species); *Thysanina* (Africa, 6 species); *Trachelas* (worldwide, 89 species); *Trachelopachys* (South America, 15 species); and *Utivarachna* Kishida (Asia, 13 species). Only three tracheline genera (*Cetonana* Strand, 1929, *Trachelas* L. Koch, 1872 and *Utivarachna* Kishida, 1940) occur in Asia (Deeleman-Reinhold 2001; Paik 1991; Platnick 2006; Schenkel 1936; Song, Zhu & Chen 1999) and about 11 nominal species have been reported from Southeast Asia (Deeleman-Reinhold 2001), most of them belonging to *Utivarachna*.

The genus *Utivarachna* was initially established for a single corinnid spider species, *U. fukasawana* Kishida, 1940, which inhabits tropical evergreen forests of Borneo (Kishida 1940). Nothing else was published and the genus remained monotypic until Deeleman-Reinhold (2001) added several species. *Utivarachna* now comprises 13 nominal species (including the new species treated here) and several more