



A revision of the Neotropical spider genus *Oligoxystre* Vellard 1924 (Theraphosidae, Ischnocolinae)

JOSÉ PAULO LEITE GUADANUCCI

Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo. Av. Nazaré, 481, Ipiranga, CEP: 04263-000 São Paulo, SP, Brazil. Departamento de Zoologia – Instituto de Biociências da Universidade de São Paulo. E-mail: zepaulo@artist.com.br

Abstract

The genus *Oligoxystre* Vellard 1924 is revised. *Pseudoligoxystre* Vol 2001 is synonymized with *Oligoxystre* and its type-species, *P. bolivianum* Vol 2001, is considered valid. The type-specimen of *Oligoxystre auratum* Vellard 1924, type-species by original designation, is considered lost. No additional material matching the original description was found and therefore the species is diagnosed from the original description. Four new species, all from Brazil, are also described: *O. caatinga*, *O. dominguense*, *O. tucuruense*, and *O. rufoniger*. Data on natural history of *O. bolivianum* from field and captivity observations are presented. The genus *Cenobiopelma* Mello-Leitão & Arlé 1934) is based upon *Cenobiopelma mimeticum* Mello-Leitão & Arlé 1934 for which no type was ever designated and hence both are considered nomina nuda.

Key words: Araneae, Mygalomorphae, Ischnocolinae, *Pseudoligoxystre*, *Cenobiopelma*

Introduction

The theraphosid subfamily Ischnocolinae has a problematic taxonomy, and has been considered paraphyletic (Raven 1985). Ausserer (1871) described the genus *Ischnocolus* based partially on the divided tarsal scopula. The character state “divided scopula”, although long considered a useful taxonomic tool (Ausserer 1871; Simon 1889; Gerschman & Schiapelli 1973a), is the plesiomorphic state for the “tarsal scopula” character (Pérez-Miles 1992). Early instars of all theraphosid species present this state, and some juvenile specimens were erroneously described as Ischnocolinae (Pérez-Miles 1992). This problem was partially clarified when Raven (1985) considered that the Ischnocolinae needed to be revised at the genus level and separated into monophyletic groups.

The Ischnocolinae have the broadest geographical distribution of theraphosid subfamilies: northern and central Africa, India, Middle East, Mediterranean region of Europe, Central and South America, and Antilles (Smith 1990; Rudloff 1997; Vol 2001).

Oligoxystre Vellard 1924 was described from the city of Catalão, in southern Goiás, Brazil, with *O. auratum* as its type species. The type-specimen, which should be deposited at the Instituto Vital Brazil in Rio de Janeiro, is considered lost (Gerschman & Schiapelli 1973b; Raven 1985). Raven (1985) also included *Cenobiopelma* in the synonymy of *Oligoxystre* based on the reduced number of cuspules on the labium. Mello-Leitão & Arlé (1934) described the genus *Cenobiopelma*, with *C. mimetica* as the type-species, from the state of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Later, Mello-Leitão (1941) added *Cenobiopelma argentinense*, from Andagalá, Catamarca, Argentina. Hence, the genus included three species until Guadanucci (2004) who transferred *Oligoxystre argentinense* to *Catumiri* Guadanucci 2004.

Vol (1997) described *Pseudoligoxystre* from Bolivia but he erroneously compared it to *Catumiri argentinensis*, included then in *Oligoxystre*, and therefore concluded it should be placed in a new genus.