



Description of the female of *Drymusa serrana* Goloboff & Ramírez, 1991 (Araneae: Drymusidae) with notes on its biology

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Abstract

The female of *Drymusa serrana* Goloboff & Ramírez, 1991, is described. The presence of the species in San Luis provinces, Argentina, is confirmed. We provide descriptions of the web and egg-sacs.

Key words: Araneae, Scytodoidea, Drymusidae, taxonomy, Argentina

Introduction

The family Drymusidae includes only the genus *Drymusa* Simon, 1891, which comprises fifteen described species (Platnick 2007). Three of them occur in South Africa and the remaining twelve in the Neotropical region. In the past few years, the descriptions of new species of *Drymusa* increased dramatically, especially for South America, with five new species from Brazil (Brescovit *et al.* 2004; Bonaldo *et al.* 2006) and one from Chile (Labarque & Ramirez 2007).

Drymusidae is currently considered close to Scytodidae and Periegopidae due to the presence of a field of spicules on the median surface of the posterior median spinnerets and by having asymmetrical superior claws in the anterior two pairs of legs, with a double row of teeth on the proclaw and a single row on the retroclaw (Labarque & Ramirez 2007). The tracheal system has a unique median apodemal lobe, characteristic of a restricted Scytodoidea: Scytodidae, Sicariidae, Drymusidae, and Periegopidae (Platnick *et al.* 1991; Forster 1995; Ramírez 2000).

In this contribution we present the description of the female of *Drymusa serrana*, provide notes on its habitat, web and egg-sacs, and confirm its known distribution.

Material and methods

All the specimens and the egg-sacs examined are deposited in the arachnological collection of the Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales “Bernardino Rivadavia”, Buenos Aires (MACN-Ar, Cristina Scioscia). Female genitalia were observed in clove oil after dissection, with or without previous digestion with KOH. The drawings were made with camera lucida mounted on a stereoscopic compound microscope Olympus BH-2; pictures were made with a digital camera Nikon DXM1200 mounted on a stereoscopic microscope Nikon SMZ1500, the focal planes were composed with Helicon Focus 3.10.3. (Khmelik *et al.*, 2006); live pictures were made with a Canon EOS Rebel and a Nikon D100 digital cameras. Measurements are given in millimeters.