



A new species of Ananteris Thorell (Scorpiones: Buthidae) from Colombia

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Abstract

Ananteris myriamae **sp. nov.** is described from the department of Meta, Colombia. This species is characterized, among other features, by the presence of two concavities in the anterior margin of the carapace, and six carinae in metasomal segment IV. With its description, the number of known species of *Ananteris* is raised to 59, five of which are present in Colombia.

Key words: Scorpions, Ananteris, new species, Colombia, Meta

Introduction

The genus *Ananteris* Thorell (Scorpiones: Buthidae) was first described based on the type species *Ananteris balzanii* Thorell from Brazil, and up to date includes 58 known species (González-Sponga 2006; Kovařík 2006; Lourenço *et al.* 2006). Even though it had long been considered a Neotropical group, almost a century after its original description Lourenço (1985) included within this genus the species *Ananteris feae* (Borelli) from Western Africa, previously assigned to the monotypic genus *Ananteroides* Borelli, and gave a new proper diagnosis to *Ananteris*. Therefore, the genus exhibits a Gondwanaland distribution with almost all species in the New World.

Specifically for Colombia only four species of *Ananteris* are known: *Ananteris columbiana* Lourenço, *Ananteris ehrlichi* Lourenço, *Ananteris gorgonae* Lourenço & Flórez and *Ananteris leilae* Lourenço (Flórez 2001). Examination by the author of new material of *Ananteris* indicated the existence of a new species that is herein described, while other specimens are pending of additional studies. The new species becomes the first of the genus to be known from the department of Meta.

Methods

Photographs were taken using an Olympus D-590 ZOOM digital camera. Hand illustrations were prepared with a *camera lucida* mounted on a Stemi SV 6 stereoscope (Zeiss). Measurements were taken with the program Motic Images 2000 version 1.2 through a PC connected to a Motic Digital Microscope DM-143. The distribution map was elaborated using the program ArcView GIS version 3.1. [Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), Redlands, California]. Mensuration parameters follow Sissom *et al.* (1990) and values are presented in millimetres (mm). All specimens are preserved in 70% ethanol.

Abbreviations used to denote trichobothria: d = dorsal; db = dorsal basal; dt = dorsal terminal; e = external nal; eb = external basal; em = external median; esb = external sub-basal; est = external sub-terminal; et = external