



On the Neotropical genus *Adcatomus* Karsch (Araneae: Sparassidae)

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Abstract

The genus *Adcatomus* Karsch, 1880 is revised. The male of the type species, *A. ciudadus* Karsch, 1880 is redescribed based on recently collected material from Venezuela, and the female is described for the first time based on material from the same locality. In addition, the monotypic genus *Spatala* Simon, 1897 is considered a junior synonym of *Adcatomus* and thus, *S. flavovittata* Simon, 1897 also described from Venezuela is transferred to that genus.

Key words: Arachnida, Taxonomy, Neotropical region

Introduction

The genus *Adcatomus* was originally described by Karsch (1880) as a member of Clubionidae. It included a single species known solely from the male holotype from Lima, Peru. The dried and pinned type specimen was examined by Dr. Peter Jäger amongst material deposited in the Zoologisches Museum der Humboldt-Universität Berlin (ZMB) and turned out to have a trilobate membrane located at the end of the leg metatarsi, a synapomorphy for representatives of the family Sparassidae. The genus was then transferred to Sparassidae and its type species redescribed (Jäger 2000).

Almost seven years later, while examining material collected during an expedition of the Museu Nacional do Rio de Janeiro (MNRJ) to Venezuela, I discovered a male specimen very similar to that depicted by Jäger (2000). The comparison of this specimen to the illustrations presented by Jäger (2000: 239, figs. 1–4) showed they were indeed conspecific, even though the collecting localities were more than 2750 km apart.

Additionally, the comparison of the genitalic structures of the female collected together with the above mentioned male with those of the female of *Spatala flavovittata* Simon, type species of the genus *Spatala*, described by Simon (1897) from Venezuela, showed both species were also congeneric.

Thus, in this paper both genera are synonymized and *Spatala flavovittata* is transferred to *Adcatomus*. Additionally, both species are redescribed and new illustrations are presented.

Material and methods

The material examined belongs to the following institutions (Abbreviation and curator in parenthesis): Muséum National d'Histoire naturelle, Paris (MNHN, C. Rollard); Museo de Historia Natural La Salle, Caracas (MHNLS).

All measurements are given in millimeters. Abbreviations used throughout the text are: ALE = anterior lateral eyes; ALS = anterior lateral spinnerets; AME = anterior median eyes; d = dorsal; p = prolateral; PLE =