



The true female of *Heteropoda squamacea* Wang, 1990 (Araneae: Sparassidae)

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Besides the genus *Olios* Walckenaer, 1837, *Heteropoda* Latreille, 1804 is the most diverse genus in the spider family Sparassidae. Currently, a total of 192 *Heteropoda* species are known, among them 13 from China (Platnick 2008). In the current paper, the female of *Heteropoda squamacea* Wang, 1990 is described for the first time. The previously proposed female of *H. squamacea* appeared to be a misidentification of *H. venatoria* (Linnaeus, 1767) (Jäger & Yin 2001). Another female paratype of *H. squamacea* falls into the variation scheme of *H. tetrica* Thorell, 1897 (Eusemann & Jäger, in press) and most likely belongs to this species. Due to congruence of palpal structure, especially the bifurcated tip of the conductor, *H. bifurcata* Wang, Chen & Zhu, 2002 (not: *H. bifurcula*; contra Platnick 2008) is considered as a junior synonym of *H. squamacea*.

Specimens were examined and measured using an Olympus SZ40 stereomicroscope and an Olympus BX41 compound microscope. All illustrations were made using a drawing tube. Photos were taken with an Olympus C7070 wide zoom digital camera (7.1 megapixels) mounted on an Olympus SZX12 stereomicroscope. Male palps and female genitalia were examined and illustrated after they were dissected from the spiders' body. Vulvae of females were cleared in 90% lactic acid. The dissected parts were returned to ethanol and stored in a microvial with the body. Leg measurements are shown as: total length (femur, patella, tibia, metatarsus, tarsus). Number of spines are listed for each segment in the following order: prolateral, dorsal, retrolateral, ventral (in femora and patellae ventral spines are absent and fourth digit is omitted in the spination formula).

Abbreviations: ALE — anterior lateral eyes; AME — anterior median eyes; PLE — posterior lateral eyes; PME — posterior median eyes; RTA — retrolateral tibial apophysis; I, II, III, IV — legs I to IV. Collections: HNU — Hunan Normal University, Changsha, China; HUB — Hebei University, Baoding, China; IZCAS — Institute of Zoology, Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China.

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Heteropoda squamacea Wang, 1990

Figs 1–8

Heteropoda squamacea Wang, 1990: 7, figs 6–10 (description of male, misidentification of female; Holotype male, China, Yunnan Province, Yuanjiang County, 8 March 1979, Jiafu Wang, HNU. 1 female paratype (misidentification; = *Heteropoda venatoria*), same data as for holotype. 1 female paratype (misidentification; = *Heteropoda tetrica*), 1 juvenile, China, Yunnan Province, Mengyang County, 10 March 1979, Jiafu Wang, HNU) all examined. Song, Zhu & Chen, 1999: 468, figs 268R, 269A (illustration of male, recognising presumable misidentification of female). Jäger, in press: figs. 340–349 (illustration of male and female).

Heteropoda bifurcata Wang, Chen & Zhu, 2002: 19, figs 1–5 (description of male; Holotype: male, China, Guizhou Province, Libo County, Dongtang township, Baixian Mountain, 2 September 1998, Huiming Chen, HUB) examined.

New Synonymy.