



First report of the sac spider genus *Systaria* Simon (Araneae: Clubionidae) from China: *Systaria hainanensis* sp. nov. and *Systaria mengla* (Song & Zhu, 1994) comb. nov.

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Abstract

The cylindrical, non-armoured spider genus *Systaria* Simon, 1897, belonging to the subfamily Systariinae Deeleman-Reinhold, 2001 (Clubionidae Wagner, 1887) is reported from China for the first time, its genus characters are reviewed in detail, and its taxonomic position, between the Clubionidae and Miturgidae Simon, 1886, is discussed. A new *Systaria* species from Hainan Island is diagnosed, described and illustrated under the name of *Systaria hainanensis* sp. nov. In addition, the species *Itatsina mengla* Song & Zhu, 1994 is transferred from *Itatsina* Kishida, 1930 (Liocranidae Simon, 1897) to *Systaria*, *S. mengla* (Song & Zhu, 1994) comb. nov.

Key words: Spider, taxonomy, *Systaria*, new record, new species, new combination

Introduction

The genus *Systaria* Simon, 1897 was established by Simon (1897a), who then placed it in the Clubionidae Wagner, 1887. Lehtinen (1967) transferred it from the Clubionidae to Miturgidae Simon, 1886. Deeleman-Reinhold (2001) listed *Systaria* in the subfamily Systariinae Deeleman-Reinhold, 2001 and thought the family Clubionidae to be composed of three subfamilies: Clubioninae Wagner, 1887, Eutichurinae Lehtinen, 1967 and Systariinae Deeleman-Reinhold, 2001. In the same book, she synonymised *Hebrithete* Berland, 1938 with *Systaria*. At present the genus comprises a world fauna of nine species (Platnick 2009). Four of these species are known from both males and females: *Systaria barkudensis* (Gravely, 1931), *S. drassiformis* Simon, 1897, *S. elberti* (Strand, 1913), *S. insulana* (Rainbow, 1902); two species only from males: *S. leoi* (Barrion & Litsinger, 1995) and *S. gedensis* Simon, 1897; and three species only from females: *S. bohorokensis* Deeleman-Reinhold, 2001, *S. cervina* (Simon, 1897) and *S. dentata* Deeleman-Reinhold, 2001. All described species of this genus are found in Southeast Asia and various Pacific Islands, including Sumatra, Philippines, Java, Lombok and the New Hebrides (Deeleman-Reinhold 2001).

While examining spider specimens collected in 2007 on Hainan Island, China, we found some undescribed cylindrical, non-armoured sac spider specimens with enlarged anterior median eyes and procurved posterior eye row, a well-marked thoracic groove, widely separated anterior lateral spinnerets and two-long-segmented posterior lateral spinnerets, absence of a conductor in the male palpal bulb, and posterior spermathecae in females. All these characters conform to the genus characters of *Systaria* (as per Deeleman-Reinhold 2001). This is the first record of this genus in China, and here we describe the new species under the name *Systaria hainanensis* sp. nov.

In addition, we examined the female holotype of *Itatsina mengla* Song & Zhu, 1994 (collected 19 April 1992, from Cave Caiyun, Mengla County, Yunnan Province, China) and found its characters not to conform to the genus characters of *Itatsina* but rather to the diagnosis of *Systaria*. Therefore we here transfer this species