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Crab spiders from Xishuangbanna, Yunnan Province, China (Araneae, Thomisidae)

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Abstract

The crab spiders (Araneae: Thomisidae) collected from Xishuangbanna, Yunnan Province, China are studied. A total of 34 genera and 62 species are reported, including 2 new genera and 23 new species: *Micromisumenops* **gen. nov.** of the tribe Misumenini Simon, 1895 (type species *Misumenops xiushanensis* Song and Chai, 1990), *Spilosynema* **gen. nov.** of the tribe Talaini Simon, 1895 (type species *S. ansatum* **sp. nov.**); *Heriaeus concavus* **sp. nov.**, *H. convexus* **sp. nov.**, *Indoxysticus lumbricus* **sp. nov.,** *Lycopus cha* **sp. nov.**, *L. tabulatus* **sp. nov.**, *Massuria bandian* **sp. nov.,** *M. ovalis* **sp. nov.,** *Mastira serrula* **sp. nov.**, *Ozyptila imbrex* **sp. nov.**, *Paraborboropactus canalis* **sp. nov.**, *Phrynarachne brevis* **sp. nov.**, *P. lancea* **sp. nov.,** *Pistius rotundus* **sp. nov.,** *Smodicinodes yaoi* **sp. nov.**, *Spilosynema ansatum* **sp. nov.,** *S. comminum* **sp. nov.,** *S. mancum* **sp. nov.,** *S. ravum* **sp. nov.,** *Synema revolutum* **sp. nov.**, *Takachihoa lamellaris* **sp. nov.**, *T. tumida* **sp. nov.**, *Talaus sulcus* **sp. nov.**, *Tmarus gladiatus* **sp. nov.** Male *Epidius bazarus* (Tikader, 1970), male *Paraborboropactus rhombus* Tang and Li, 2009, female *Smodicinodes schwendingeri* Benjamin, 2002 are described for the first time.

Key words: Taxonomy, new genus, new species, Southeast Asia, tropical rainforest

Discussion

The tropical seasonal rainforest of Xishuangbnana has a high diversity of crab spiders. A total of 62 species in 34 genera (including 2 new genera and 23 new species) were collected from Menglun Natural Reserve, which is only a town of Xishangbanna. The crab spiders were collected mainly by hand searching, pitfall traps and fogging from different kinds of tropical forests, altitude 500–1000 m. Only few crab spiders were collected from rubber tree forests. The dominant species of our collections were: *Amyciaea forticeps* (64 ♂, 50 ♀) which can also be collected from rubber tree forests, *Spilosynema ansatum* **sp. nov.** (59 ♂, 46 ♀), *Talaus sulcus* **sp. nov.** (29 ♂, 97 ♀).

The study revealed a wide distribution of some thomisids in Southeast Asia, e.g., *Smodiscinodes schwendingeri*, originally recorded from North Thailand; *Epidius bazarus*, recorded firstly from East India. It is remarkable that no specimens of *Xysticus* C. L. Koch, 1835 were collected from this area, although *Xysticus* is the most speciose thomisid genus in the world and is common in other provinces of China.

The crab spider fauna of Xishuangbanna shows similarity to that of Hainan Island (43 species in 25 genera, Tang & Li 2010), which is situated in a distance of approximately 800 km and also has tropical forests. A total of 18 species were recorded from both areas as follows: *Alcimochthes limbatus*, *A. meridionalis*, *Amyciaea forticeps*, *Boliscus tuberculatus*, *Borboropactus hainanus*, *Camaricus formosus*, *Cebrenninus rugosus*, *Ebrechtella tricuspidatusa*, *Lycopus primus*, *Lysiteles minusculus*, *Simorcus asiaticus*, *Strigoplus guizhouensis*, *Takachihoa truciformis*, *Talaus xiphosus*, *Thomisus eminulus*, *Tmarus menglae*, *T. songi* and *T. taiwanus*.

Some species are still known from one sex only, and further genera, such as *Philodamia* Thorell, 1894 and *Sanmenia* Song and Kim, 1992 were only recorded with juveniles and are not included here. We will continue to explore the diversity of crab spider from Xishuangbanna, Yunnan in the future.

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