



Review of the nominotypical subgenus of *Arachnospila* Kincaid (Hymenoptera: Pompilidae) of Russia and neighbouring countries with the lectotypification of enigmatic *Pompilus sogdianus* Morawitz and description of new species

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Abstract

Eleven species are reviewed. A lectotype of *Pompilus sogdianus* Morawitz 1893 is designated, illustrated and redescribed. The distribution of *Arachnospila sogdiana* (Morawitz) is limited to Tajikistan only. A new species from Tajikistan, *A. gusakovskii* sp. nov., is described and illustrated. A new synonymy is proposed for *Pompilus clericalis* Morawitz 1893 = *Arachnospila mongolorufa* Wolf & Móczár 1972, **syn. nov.** *Psammochares subocellatus* Haupt 1933 is synonymized with *Psammochares effodiens* f. *quadrimaculata* Haupt 1929, **syn. nov.**, which is raised to specific status and removed to *Arachnospila*. The synonymy of *Arachnospila sogdiana koenigsmanni* Wolf 1970 with *Pompilus sogdianus* Morawitz 1893 is confirmed. *Pompilus turcorum* de Dalla Torre 1897 (= *Pompilus vagans* Radoszkowski 1877, nom. praeocc., nec Costa 1874) is resurrected and moved to *Arachnospila*. A key to the species for both sexes is given.

Key words: Pompilidae, spider wasps, *Arachnospila*, nominotypical subgenus, Russia, lectotypification, new species

Introduction

Russia is a country that stretches over a vast expanse of Eurasia between the Baltic Sea on the West and the Pacific Ocean on the East. Russia is the northern part of the Palaearctic region. Most of the Russian territory is occupied by the provinces of the Euro-Siberian subregion and only the south of the Russian Far East belongs to the Manchurian province of the East Asian subregion. Some Mongolian insects reach the Russian region of Transbaikalia.

The genus *Arachnospila* Kincaid 1900 is predominately Holarctic, with limited representation in montane habitats in Neotropical and Afrotropical regions (Day 1988). The genus numbers 35 species in six subgenera in Europe (Wahis 2010): *Acanthopompilus* Wahis 1970 (one species), *Alpinopompilus* Wolf 1965 (two species), *Ammosphex* Wilcke 1942 (18 species), *Anoplochares* Banks 1939 (five species), *Arachnospila* Kincaid 1900 (six species), and *Melanospila* Wolf 1965 (three species). Twenty-nine species of this genus from subgenera *Ammosphex*, *Alpinopompilus*, *Anoplochares*, and *Arachnospila* are distributed in Russia; nominotypical subgenus is represented by six species (Tobias 1978, Lelej 1995). The study of two Palaearctic species: *Pompilus clericalis* Morawitz 1889 and *P. sogdianus* Morawitz 1893 was critical for this paper. The identification of these species by many authors was incorrect and leading to both incorrect distribution and synonyms. Haupt (1929) described *Psammochares subflavus* ("Chita", both sexes of this species have been discovered in our material from Transbaikalia) from the *fumipennis*-group, but this species belongs to *Arachnospila* (*Ammosphex*) *consobrina* species-group and is excluded from our review. The males of nominotypical subgenus can be recognized by the shape of sternum 8 (hypopygium), which has high median longitudinal carina (Figs 6–25). The males and females usually have dense long erect setae on head, pronotum and propodeum.

While examining specimens of *Arachnospila* in the collection of Zoological Institute (St. Petersburg, Russia), the syntypes of *Pompilus sogdianus* Morawitz 1893 and holotype of *P. clericalis* Morawitz 1889 have been discovered. We designated and described the male of *P. sogdianus* as a lectotype. Among the material from Tajikistan