



## Systematics of the genus *Soesilarishius* (Araneae: Salticidae: Euophryinae)

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### Abstract

The genus *Soesilarishius* Makhan, 2007 is revised: a diagnosis and a redescription are proposed based on the type species, seven new species from northeastern Brazil and *Soesilarishius aurifrons* (Taczanowski, 1878) **comb. nov.** from Peru. The previously monotypic genus contains now 9 species and is characterized by the reduced spiraled embolus. The species *S. minimus* **sp. nov.**, *S. lunatus* **sp. nov.**, *S. cymbialis* **sp. nov.** and *S. dromedarius* **sp. nov.** are described based on specimens from the State of Pernambuco, while *S. crispiventer* **sp. nov.**, *S. spinipes* **sp. nov.** and *S. albipes* **sp. nov.** are based on specimens from the State of Bahia. In addition, the type series of *Euophrys aurifrons* Taczanowski, 1878 from Peru is revised, a lectotype is designated and the male palp is illustrated for the first time.

**Key words:** Neotropical Region, taxonomy, new species, new combination

### Introduction

Recent studies on salticid diversity and phylogeny have called attention to the fact that the major speciose groups are either restricted, or mostly restricted, to one hemisphere or the other, also suggesting a deep biogeographical division between the Americas and the rest of the world (e.g. Maddison & Hedin 2003; Maddison *et al.* 2008). The only exception for this pattern is the Euophryinae Simon, 1901, the most speciose subfamily with the widest distribution throughout the globe (see Maddison 2003, Platnick 2011). The phylogeny and historical biogeography of Euophryinae, though, is still relatively unknown.

Prószyński (1976) proposed and Maddison & Hedin (2003) clarified the delimitation of the Euophryinae based on male palp structure. The genera included in the subfamily usually have an embolus coiled as a spiral at the distal end of the tegulum, with the plane of the spiral more or less parallel to the longitudinal axis of the palpus. They also possess a retrolateral sperm duct loop projecting towards the center of the tegulum.

The genus *Soesilarishius* has been recently proposed by Makhan (2007), whose research focus is not primarily spiders, but beetles, especially those from Suriname. The description contains less information than current taxonomic papers, but the drawings and images published are enough to confirm the species. Although the genus has been originally suggested as an amycine (“*Soesilarishius* **gen. nov.** appears to be closely allied to the genus *Amycus* Koch, 1846” – Makhan 2007), the author did not mention which details led him into such interpretation, which is here considered erroneous. Unlike most Amazonian amycines, whose chelicerae bear several retrolateral teeth, *Soesilarishius amrishi* Makhan, 2007 (the type species from Suriname) has unidentate chelicerae (Makhan 2007: p. 2). Furthermore, *S. amrishi* possesses the typical euophryine loop in the sperm duct, seen through the thin ventral surface of the tegulum (Makhan 2007: fig. 5). Conversely, *S. amrishi* does not have the coiled spiral embolus, typical for euophryines. The reduction of the coiled embolus, on the other hand, has happened several times within euophryines (e.g. *Anasaitis* Bryant, *Diolenius* Thorell, *Tylogonus* Simon) and possibly other groups, being a character not yet comprehended.

In this paper, seven new species are described from northeastern Brazil. Similarly to *S. amrishi* Makhan, these new species have the typical euophryine loop in the sperm duct but not the well developed coiled embolus. Even though this condition might have evolved several times, as an effort to simplify systematics, they are here described under *Soesilarishius*. Their close relationship with the type species and genus position, though, needs to be corroborated by additional studies, such as phylogenetic studies using molecular data.