



Two new species of the genus *Mallinella* Strand, 1906 (Araneae: Zodariidae) from China

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Abstract

Two new species of the spider genus *Mallinella* are reported from China: *M. zhui* sp. nov. (♂) and *M. tianlin* sp. nov. (♂).

Key words: taxonomy, *Mallinella*, new species, China

Introduction

Members of the ant spider family Zodariidae are small to medium-size. It contains 77 genera and 956 known species (Platnick 2011). Among them, 32 species from six genera, *Asceua* Thorell, *Cydrela* Thorell, *Mallinella* Strand, *Stenomorphia* Simon, *Heradion* Dankittipakul & Jocqué and *Zodariellum* Andreeva & Tyschchenko, have been reported from China (Song, Zhu & Chen 1999; Li & Wang 2011; Zhang, Zhang & Chen 2011; Zhang, Chen & Zhang 2011).

The genus *Mallinella* was established by Strand in 1906. Van Hove & Bosmans (1984) elevated the subgenus *Suffucioides* Jézéquel, 1964 to generic status, but later it was considered a junior synonym of *Langbiana* Hogg (Bosmans & Van Hove 1986). Jocqué (1991) synonymized the genus *Langbiana* with *Mallinella*, and redefined the genus *Mallinella* with the following characteristics: the sternum with triangular extensions fitting in coxal concavities, and the presence of a row of short spines in front of the tracheal spiracle. So far 88 species of *Mallinella* have been reported worldwide (Bosmans & van Hove 1986; Bosmans & Hillyard 1990; Ono & Tanikawa 1990; Jocqué, 1991; Ono 2003, 2004a, 2004b; Tanikawa 2005; Dankittipakul & Schwendinger 2009; Dankittipakul *et al.* 2010; Logunov 2010), including 17 *Mallinella* species from southern China (Song & Kim 1997; Song, Zhu & Chen 1999; Wang, Ran & Chen 1999; Yin & Yan 2001; Bao & Yin 2002; Zhang & Zhu 2009; Wang, Yin & Peng 2009; Wang *et al.* 2009; Zhang, Zhang & Chen 2011).

During the examination of the spider collections from southern China, two *Mallinella* species were discovered and are described here: *M. zhui* sp. nov. and *M. tianlin* sp. nov.

Material and methods

All specimens were kept in 75% ethanol and examined, drawn and measured under a Tech XTL-II stereomicroscope equipped with an Abbe drawing device. Carapace length was measured from the anterior margin to the rear margin of the carapace medially. Eye sizes were measured as the maximum diameter of the lens in dorsal or frontal view. The measurements of legs are shown as total length (femur, patella, tibia, metatarsus, tarsus). The epigynum was cleared in a warm solution of potassium hydroxide (KOH), transferred to 75% ethanol for drawing. All measurements are in millimeters. All specimens studied are deposited in the Museum of Hebei University (MHBU), Baoding, China.