



Article

Five new species of lapsiine jumping spiders from Ecuador (Araneae: Salticidae)

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Abstract

Five new species of lapsiine jumping spiders from Ecuador are described, including the first *Lapsias* Simon from outside Venezuela. *Lapsias lorax*, **sp. nov.** is known from a cloud forest just west of Quito. A new species from the slopes of Volcan Sumaco is tentatively assigned to *Lapsias*, *Lapsias guamani* **sp. nov.** *Lapsias canandea*, **sp. nov.** is the first lapsiine described from the lowlands west of the Andes. The genus *Lapsias* is poorly defined, and some of these new species may merit separate genera when the group's phylogeny is better known. Two new species of *Thrandina* Maddison are described from about 2000 m elevation, *Thrandina cosanga* **sp. nov.** from the eastern slopes of the Andes, and *Thrandina bellavista* **sp. nov.** from the western slopes. New illustrations are provided for the already-described *Thrandina parocula* Maddison. Photographs of living individuals are presented for all species.

Key words: Araneae, Salticidae, lapsiines, jumping spider

Introduction

Lapsiine jumping spiders are distinctive within the neotropical fauna, falling outside the major salticid clade Salticoida and having several ancestral traits such as a median apophysis on the male palp and a tarsal claw on the female palp (Maddison, 2006; Maddison & Needham, 2006; Ruiz & Maddison, 2012). Only fourteen species in four genera have been described: four species of *Lapsias* Simon from Venezuela (Platnick, 2011), one of *Thrandina* Maddison and two of *Galianora* Maddison from Ecuador (Maddison, 2006), and seven species of *Soesiladeepakius* Makhan from Brazil and Surinam (Ruiz & Maddison, 2012). I here describe five new lapsiine species from two recent expeditions to Ecuador: three species of *Lapsias*, the first from outside Venezuela, and two species of *Thrandina*.

Material and methods

Figure 1 shows the localities from which the specimens here described were sampled. All specimens are deposited in the Spencer Entomological Museum of the University of British Columbia (UBC-SEM) or the Museum of Zoology, Pontificia Universidad Católica, Quito, Ecuador (QCAZ).

Photographs of living specimens were taken with a Pentax Optio 33WR digital camera with a small lens glued to it for macro capability; photographs of bodies in alcohol were compiled by Helicon Focus from photographs of different focal planes taken with a Nikon D7000 camera. Preserved specimens were examined under both dissecting microscopes and a compound microscope with reflected light. Drawings were made with a drawing tube on a Nikon ME600L compound microscope.

Terminology is standard for Araneae. All measurements are given in millimeters. Carapace length was measured from the base of the anterior median eyes not including the lenses to the rear margin of the carapace medially; abdomen length to the end of the anal tubercle. The following abbreviations are used: ALE, anterior lateral eyes; PLE, posterior lateral eyes; PME, posterior median eyes (the "small eyes").