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Redescription of *Lystrocteisa* Simon, 1884 (Araneae: Salticidae) from New Caledonia

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Abstract

The monotypic jumping spider genus *Lystrocteisa* Simon, 1884 is redescribed. A new generic diagnosis is provided, based on both sexes, together with redescription of the male and description and illustration of the hitherto unknown female of the type species.

Key words: *Lystrocteisa myrmex*, jumping spiders, Pacific Islands

Introduction

The monotypic genus *Lystrocteisa* was erected by Simon in 1884 for *L. myrmex*, known only from the male specimen from Nouméa, New Caledonia. Żabka (1988) re-described the type species of the genus, giving the illustrations of the body form and palpal organ of the male holotype.

Until now *L. myrmex* has been known only by one sex only. The position of the genus within Salticidae has been discussed by Simon (1901), who placed *Lystrocteisa* into the group Diolenieae, together with *Diolenius* Thorell, 1870, *Discocnemius* Thorell, 1881, *Chalcolecta* Simon, 1884 and *Tarodes* Pocock, 1890, referring to the body form, elongated first trochanter and location of posterior eyes on tubercles. However, taxonomic revision of the group Diolenieae *sensu lato*, pointed *Diolenius*, *Ohilimia* Strand, 1911 and *Chalcolecta* as the closest relatives with the following synapomorphies: legs I of mantid-like appearance, with elongate trochanters, PME and PLE on marked tubercles, embolus partly hidden behind tegulum, epigyne with strongly sclerotized wing-shaped lateral margins, insemination ducts with terminal chambers, accompanied by accessory glands and connected with spermathecae via narrow channels (Gardzińska 2004, 2006; Gardzińska & Żabka 2005, 2006).

New morphology data presented here, particularly concerning structure of the female epigyne, as well as the structure of the male palp (with the embolus fixed to the tegulum), suggest close relationship to *Rogmocrypta* Simon, 1885. According to Maddison *et al.* (2008) *Lystrocteisa* belongs to the Australasian Astioida clade.

The aim of this study is to redefine the genus and describe the female for the first time, providing diagnostic drawings and photos.

Material and methods

The work is part of a long-term project aimed to study salticids of SW Pacific region. *Lystrocteisa* specimens were chosen from the material gathered by professionals (hand collecting, fogging, light and pitfall trapping, sieving) in different periods and areas, from collections of Queensland Museum, Brisbane (QM); Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris (MNHN); American Museum of Natural History, New York (AMNH). The drawings were made using a grid system. A Canon PowerShoot A620 digital camera, attached to the stereomicroscope and Helicon