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Four new species of the genus *Pseudopoda* Jäger, 2000 (Araneae, Sparassidae) from Yunnan Province, China

BAO-SHI ZHANG¹, FENG ZHANG^{2,4} & ZHI-SHENG ZHANG³

¹Baoding University, Baoding, 071051, P. R. China. zhangbaoshi01@163.com

²College of Life Sciences, Hebei University, Baoding, Hebei 071002, P. R. China

³Key Laboratory of Eco-environments in Three Gorges Reservoir Region, School of Life Science, Southwest University, Chongqing 400715, China.

⁴Corresponding author. dudu06042001@163.com

Abstract

Four new species of the huntsman spider genus *Pseudopoda* Jäger, 2000 are reported from Yunnan Province, China: *Pseudopoda gibberosa* **sp. nov.** (male, female), *P. semiannulata* **sp. nov.** (male, female), *P. breviducta* **sp. nov.** (male, female) and *P. triangula* **sp. nov.** (male, female).

Key words: taxonomy, Heteropodinae, huntsman spiders, distribution patterns

Introduction

The spider family Sparassidae Bertkau, 1872 is mainly known as large huntsman spiders, living under tree bark and stones, in foliage, leaf litter, rock crevices, caves, grass or in synanthropic habitats (Jäger & Yin 2001; Jäger & Vedel 2007; Liu *et al.* 2008). It is the tenth largest family within Araneae, with 84 described genera and 1132 species worldwide (Platnick 2013). To date, 102 species of Sparassidae belonging to eleven genera, have been recorded from China (Song *et al.* 1999; Platnick 2013).

Pseudopoda species are small to large spiders. The genus *Pseudopoda* belongs to the subfamily Heteropodinae Thorell, 1873, and it was described by Jäger (2000) from southern Asia. He defined the genus with the following characters: conductor of male palp membranous; embolus broadened and flattened or at least in its proximal part broadened; retrolateral tibial apophysis arising in a medial or basal position; the lateral lobes of epigyne rising beyond epigastric furrow, and covering the median septum. Jäger & Vedel (2007) revised the genus *Pseudopoda* of Yunnan Province, China, and described 15 new species. To date, 98 species of the genus *Pseudopoda* have been described from Asia, of which 37 have been recorded from China (Jäger 2001, 2002, 2008a, 2008b; Jäger & Yin 2001; Jäger & Ono 2001, 2002; Jäger & Praxaysombath 2009; Jäger & Vedel 2005, 2007; Jäger *et al.* 2002, 2006; Ono 2009; Platnick 2013; Song *et al.* 1999; Sun & Zhang 2012; Tang & Yin 2000; Xu & Yin 2000; Yang & Chen 2008; Yang & Hu 2001; Yang *et al.* 2009; Zhang & Kim 1996).

China is the distribution center of the genus, most *Pseudopoda* species occur in Southern China. Almost all species show small distribution ranges, and several species have overlapping distribution ranges. The spiders of this genus live in the leaf litter, under bark of trees, under stones and few on plants (Jäger 2001; Jäger & Vedel 2007). During the examination of spider specimens collected in forest habitats (1300–2740 m), Yunnan Province, China, four new species, *Pseudopoda gibberosa* **sp. nov.**, *P. semiannulata* **sp. nov.**, *P. breviducta* **sp. nov.** and *P. triangula* **sp. nov.** are recognized and described here.