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The huntsman genus *Decaphora* Franganillo, 1931 (Araneae: Sparassidae: Sparianthinae)

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Abstract

The genus *Decaphora* Franganillo, 1931 is revised. *Pseudosparianthis variabilis* F.O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1900, *Pseudosparianthis cubana* Banks, 1909 and *Thecticopis pestai* (Reimoser, 1939) are transferred to the genus; and *P. cubana* is considered a senior synonym of the type species, *Decaphora trabiformis* Franganillo, 1931. In addition, the female of *T. pestai* and the male of *P. variabilis* are described for the first time; and a new species, *Decaphora kohunlich* **spec. nov.**, is described from Mexico and Guatemala.

Key words: Mexico, Neotropical region, new species, spiders, taxonomy, transfer

Introduction

The subfamily Sparianthinae Simon is represented in the Neotropical region by seven genera: *Stasina* Simon, 1877, *Pseudosparianthis* Simon, 1887, *Sparianthis* Simon, 1880, *Thecticopis* Karsch, 1884, *Defectrix* Petrunkevitch, 1925, *Decaphora* Franganillo, 1931, and the recently described *Uaiuara* Rheims, 2013. *Sparianthis*, *Decaphora* and *Defectrix* are all monotypic and together with *Pseudosparianthis* and *Uaiuara* are exclusively Neotropical. *Stasina* and *Thecticopis* include both Neotropical and Oriental species.

Pseudosparianthis was originally described by Simon (1887) to include the type species, *Pseudosparianthis fusca* Simon, 1887, and *P. picta* Simon, 1887. To date, the genus comprises 11 species distributed from Mexico to northern South America (Platnick 2014). A careful examination of the type specimens of all species showed that not all are congeneric with *P. fusca* and probably belong to other genera.

Aware of this, Fox (1937) proposed the genus *Tentabunda* to include *Pseudosparianthis cubana* Banks, 1909, for which he also described the male. The genus was considered very similar to *Pseudosparianthis* Simon from which it was distinguished by the number of ventral spines on metatarsi I and II, one pair in *Tentabunda* and two in *Pseudosparianthis*. Based on this distinction, he also transferred *P. variabilis*, described by F.O. Pickard-Cambridge (1900) from Mexico, and *P. antiguensis*, described by Bryant (1923) from the West Indies, both known solely from females. Bryant (1940) transferred *T. cubana* back to *Pseudosparianthis* but gave no reasoning for this transfer and neglected to deal with the other two species, placed in the genus by Fox. Gertsch (1941) ignored Bryant's synonymy and described *Tentabunda chickeringi*, from Panama. Finally, Roewer (1955) accepted Bryant's synonymy and transferred *T. chickeringi* to *Pseudosparianthis*. He was, however, unaware of Fox's (1937) new combinations and listed *P. antiguensis* and *P. variabilis* as never having been assigned to *Tentabunda* (Penney 2001).

Indeed *P. cubana* is not congeneric with the type species of *Pseudosparianthis*, *P. fusca* Simon, and Fox (1937) was correct in proposing a new genus. What he neglected to realize were the similarities between his *Tentabunda* and the genus *Decaphora*, described by Franganillo in 1931. *Decaphora* was proposed to include *D. trabiformis* Franganillo, 1931, from Sierra Rangel in Cuba, based on a male and female specimen. Both *Tentabunda* and *Decaphora* have only one pair of spines on ventral metatarsi I and II and five small denticles on the retromargin of the chelicerae, a character that has not been recorded for any other Neotropical Sparianthinae genera.

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