



Zootaxa 3997 (1): 001–061
www.mapress.com/zootaxa/

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Monograph

ISSN 1175-5326 (print edition)

ZOOTAXA

ISSN 1175-5334 (online edition)

<http://dx.doi.org/10.11646/zootaxa.3997.1.1>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:1DDBFD2A-587F-4551-BBF1-E5F75E7321BF>

ZOOTAXA

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A revision and phylogenetic analysis of the spider genus *Oxysoma* Nicolet (Araneae: Anyphaenidae, Amaurobioidinae)

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Magnolia Press
Auckland, New Zealand

Accepted by A. Santos: 4 Jun. 2015; published: 6 Aug. 2015

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(*Zootaxa* 3997)

61 pp.; 30 cm.

6 Aug. 2015

ISBN 978-1-77557-761-4 (paperback)

ISBN 978-1-77557-762-1 (Online edition)

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 2015 BY

Magnolia Press

P.O. Box 41-383

Auckland 1346

New Zealand

e-mail: zootaxa@mapress.com

<http://www.mapress.com/zootaxa/>

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ISSN 1175-5326 (Print edition)

ISSN 1175-5334 (Online edition)

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Abstract

We review the spider genus *Oxysoma* Nicolet, with most of its species endemic from the southern temperate forests in Chile and Argentina, and present a phylogenetic analysis including seven species, of which three are newly described in this study (*O. macrocuspis* new species, *O. kuni* new species, and *O. losruiles* new species, all from Chile), together with other 107 representatives of Anyphaenidae. New geographical records and distribution maps are provided for all species, with illustrations and reviewed diagnoses for the genus and the four previously known species (*O. punctatum* Nicolet, *O. saccatum* (Tullgren), *O. longiventre* (Nicolet) and *O. itambezinho* Ramírez). The phylogenetic analysis using cladistic methods is based on 264 previously defined characters plus one character that arises from this study. The three new species are closely related with *Oxysoma longiventre*, and this four species compose what we define as the *Oxysoma longiventre* species group. The phylogenetic analysis did not retrieve the monophyly of *Oxysoma*, which should be reevaluated in the future, together with the genus *Tasata*.

Key words: New species, South America, systematics, cladistics

Introduction

The genus *Oxysoma* was erected by Nicolet (1849) for a group of elongated spiders with pale body and a pattern of small dark dots. He described five species from Chile, and twelve more names were added through the years by diverse authors. Ramírez (2003) transferred most of the *Oxysoma* species to *Arachosia* O. Pickard-Cambridge, *Monapia* Simon and *Tasata* Simon, revalidated *Phidyle* Simon from the synonymy with *Oxysoma*, synonymized four of the Nicolet species with *O. punctatum* Nicolet and, finally, described *O. itambezinho* Ramírez, from Brazil, whose female was described later on (Ramírez *et al.* 2004). As mentioned in Ramírez (2003), other Chilean species very similar to *Oxysoma longiventre* (Nicolet) remained to be described, which are the subject of this contribution. The species of this genus are endemic to southern temperate forests from Chile and Argentina, with the exception of *O. itambezinho* that inhabits *Araucaria* forests in the Brazilian Highlands in Rio de Janeiro and Rio Grande do Sul (Ramírez 2003; Ramírez *et al.* 2004). As in the majority of genera of Anyphaenidae, *Oxysoma* species are usually found on foliage (Fig. 1) where they build their retreats.

Oxysoma belongs to the subfamily Amaurobioidinae because of the characteristic male copulatory apparatus, with a deep basal indentation in the tegulum, occupied by the median hematodocha, which can be seen as a membranous area in a ventral view of the unexpanded bulb (Ramírez 1995a, asterisks in Figs 4c, 9c, 14c, 17c, 22c, 27c, 28c, 33c). It is clearly placed in the Gayennini tribe due to the female anterior epigynal pouch, and their