

Notes on the spider genus *Misionella* with a description of a new species from Brazil (Araneae: Filistatidae)

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Abstract

Misionella jaminawa sp. n. (Araneae: Filistatidae: Prithinae) is described from state of Acre, Brazil. New records of *Misionella mendensis* (Mello-Leitão) are provided, revealing a wider distribution than previously known.

Keywords: *Misionella*, Filistatidae, Araneae, Neotropics, Brazil.

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INTRODUCTION

The filistatids are cribellate spiders that have an almost worldwide distribution. Gray (1994) revised the Australian species, and in a subsequent paper (1995) presented a cladogram where two subfamilies result: Filistatinae and Prithinae. We recently revised the Argentine fauna (Ramírez & Grismado 1997) and reanalyzed Gray's data in the light of new taxa and characters. In that work we proposed the monotypic prithine genus *Misionella* for *Filistata mendensis* Mello-Leitão 1920, from southeastern and southern Brazil (States of Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and Rio Grande do Sul) and northeastern Argentina (Provinces of Misiones and Corrientes).

Misionella resembles *Pikelinia* Mello-Leitão 1946 in having globose male palpal tibia and a characteristically modified second male metatarsus, retrolaterally excavated, with short spinules (Figs. 1, 2). However, it differs by the absence of any projection in the male palpal tibia (Figs. 3–6, Ramírez & Grismado 1997: figs. 99–102) and by the structure of the spermathecae: two pairs situated side by side, with the spherical receptacle in medial position (Figs. 7–8, Ramírez & Grismado 1997: fig. 103).

By courtesy of Antonio D. Brescovit, who sent us recently collected specimens, we describe here a new species from Acre, which extends the known geographic range of the genus far to the northwestern Brazil. We also found specimens of *M. mendensis* (Mello-Leitão) in Brazilian collections, revealing that the distribution of this species is wider than previ-

ously known, and comprises also the States of Santa Catarina, Paraná, Goiás and Mato Grosso do Sul. After examination of genitalia of many females, we found some variability in the shape of the lateral receptacles of the spermathecae: some individuals have these receptacles expanded at their base, nearly triangular (Fig. 8).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

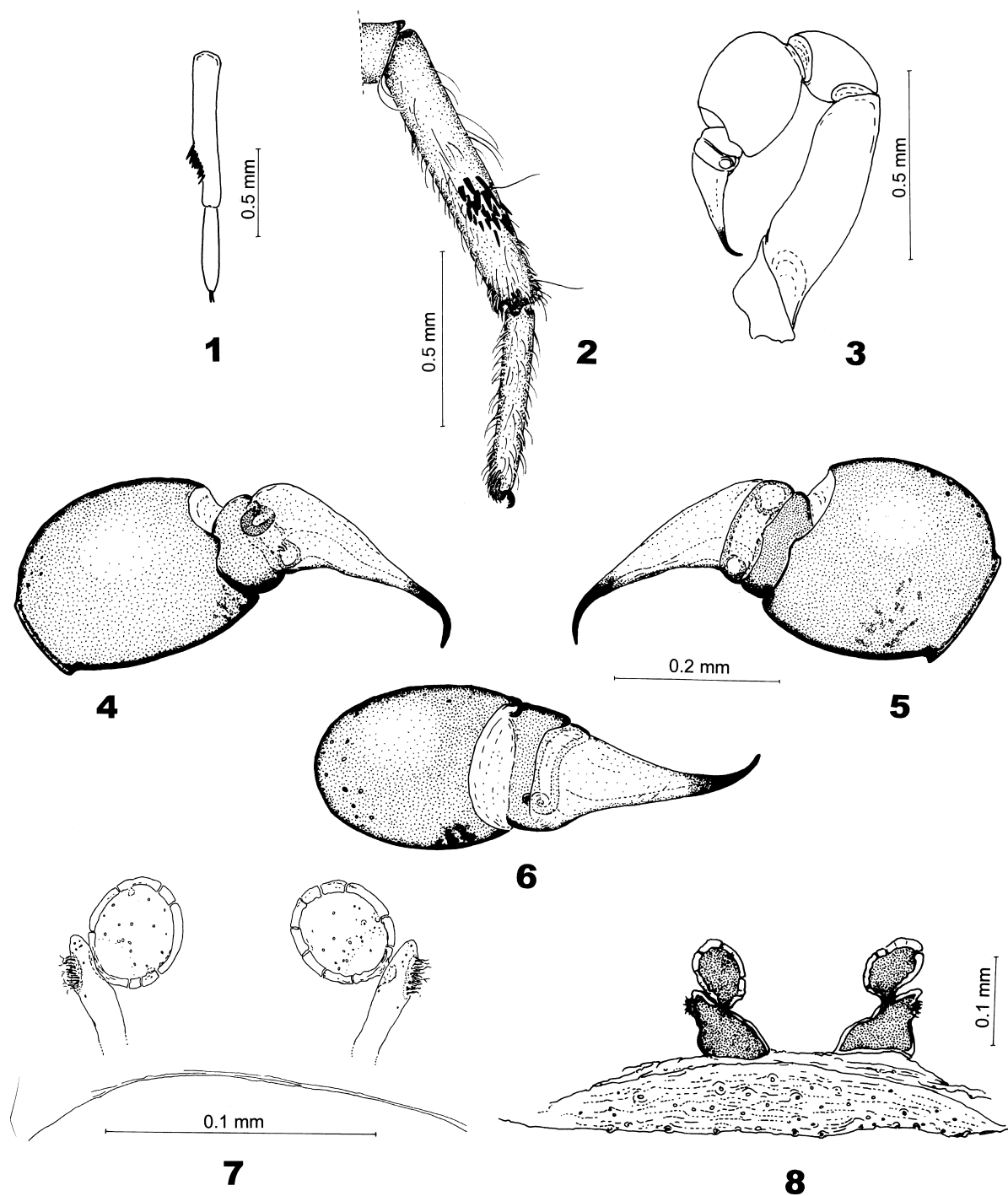
Specimens are deposited in the Instituto Butantan, São Paulo (IBSP, Antonio Brescovit), Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de São Paulo (MZSP, Ricardo Pinto da Rocha), and Museu Nacional do Rio de Janeiro (MNRJ, Adriano Kury). The format of description follows Ramírez & Grismado (1997). Internal female genitalia were cleared with clove oil. All measurements are expressed in millimeters.

RESULTS

Misionella jaminawa sp. nov.
(Figs. 1–7)

Type material

♂ holotype and ♀ allotype from Brazil, Acre, Rio Branco, Campus of Universidade Federal do Acre, 4.IV.1996, A.D. Brescovit and A.B. Bonaldo col. (IBSP 6974). Other material examined: 1 ♀ paratype and 3 juveniles collected with the types (IBSP).



Figs. 1–7. *Misionella jaminawa* sp.nov. 1: right second ♂ metatarsus and tarsus, dorsal. 2: detail retrolateral. 3: left ♂ palp. 4: detail prolateral. 5: retrolateral. 6: dorsal. 7: ♀ spermathecae, dorsal view.

Fig. 8. *Misionella mendensis* (Mello-Leitão) from Planaltina Nova, Goiás, spermathecae, dorsal view.

Diagnosis

♂ differs from *M. mendensis* by lacking paraembolic lamina (Figs. 4–6); females by having tubuliform external receptacles, with a conspicuous patch of pores (Fig. 7).

Etymology

The specific name refers to the Jaminawas, an aboriginal tribe that lives in the region where the types were collected.

Description

Male (holotype): Total length 2.49, carapace length 1.04, width 0.88. Posterior median eyes separated about 2.33 times their diameter. Palp, femur length 0.67, legs: tibiae length/width I 2.05/0.14, II 1.32/0.14, III 0.87/0.11, IV 1.43/0.19; metatarsi length I 1.87, II 0.82, III 1.01, IV 1.40; tarsi length I 0.95, II 0.51, III 0.40, IV 0.50. Abdomen length 1.46.

Carapace light brown with tenuous brown mark on fovea, sternum paler; abdomen cream with brown dorsal chevron. Legs light brown without annulations. First tibia with v p1 apical spine, metatarsus I with v 0-p1-p1 spines. Excavated area of metatarsus II with several small spinules as in *M. mendensis* (Fig. 1-2). Palpal tibia globose, bulb small, devoid of paraembolic lamina. Embolus with apex dark, thin, curved end (Figs. 3-6).

Female (allotype): Total length 2.92, carapace length 1.15, width 0.88, posterior median eyes separated by about 2.33 times their diameter. Palp: femur length 0.62, patella 0.28, tibia 0.42, tarsus 0.42. Legs tibiae length-width: I lost, II 0.71/0.16, III 0.59/0.16, IV 0.93/0.17; metatarsi length: II 0.67, III 0.60, IV 0.84; tarsi length: II 0.48, III 0.42, IV 0.50. Abdomen length 1.72.

Color as in male but slightly darker, with dorsal brown design between eyes and fovea. Abdomen as in male. All legs light brown without annulations or spines. Spermathecae with external receptacles tubuliform, with conspicuous pore-bearing area (Fig. 7).

***Misionella mendensis* (Mello-Leitão)**

(Fig. 8)

Filistata mendensis Mello-Leitão, 1920 (♀ holotype from Mendes, NE Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro State, Brazil, Mello-Leitão col., MNRJ 961, not reexamined); Bonnet 1956: 1905.

Misionella mendensis: Ramírez & Grismado 1997: 344.

New records

BRAZIL: GOIÁS: Planaltina Nova VII.1960, Arle col., 1 ♀, 1 juv., (IBSP 5090). RIO DE JANEIRO: Bom Jesus, Itabapoana (no data), 2 ♀♀ (MNRJ 2379). SÃO PAULO: Capital X.1985, 10 ♀♀ (MNRJ 228); X.1988, 1 ♂, 1 ♀ (MNRJ 2652); 1945, L. Travassos col., 2 ♀♀, 1 juv. (MZSP 9311); Ipiranga, 8.II.1942, J. Barroso col., 1 juv. (MZSP 8460); Alto de Perdizes, IX.1951, H. Urban col., 1 ♀ (MZSP 7433); Serra Negra, 1965 P. Biasi col., 3 ♂♂, 4 ♀♀, 2 juv. (MZSP 4513); Rio Claro (Colégio Clar-eteano), 4.V.1942, 1 ♀ (MZSP 9314); Araçari-guama, Fazenda São Joaquim, 22.I.1996, E. Ramires col., 1 ♀ (IBSP 6941). MATO GROSSO DO SUL: Corumbá, VI.1998, J. Raizer et al. col., 1 ♂ (IBSP 20139); Corumbá: Passo do Lontra, VI.1998, J. Raizer et al. col., 1 ♂, 1 ♀ (IBSP 20140); same data: 1 ♂ (IBSP 20141), 1 ♀ (IBSP 20142). PARANÁ: Telê-maco Borba, 16-18.X.1995, R. Martins col., 3 ♀♀ (IBSP 6936). SANTA CATARINA: Joaçaba, 2-20.VII.62, A. Bettio col., 1 ♀ (MZSP 7683). RIO GRANDE DO SUL: São Leopoldo, 1963, Panitz col., 1 ♀ (MZSP 4160).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are greatly indebted to the institutions and curators for loaning of specimens. We thank also Ricardo Pinto da Rocha and Antonio D. Brescovit for helpful comments on a draft of the manuscript.

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Received: October 1999

Accepted: December 1999

