



Description of a new species of armored spider from Myanmar (Araneae: Tetrablemmidae)

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The Tetrablemmidae is a family of small to very small haplogyne, ecribellate, three-clawed spiders characterized mainly by the complex pattern of abdominal scuta (with dorsal, lateral and ventral plates) which justifies their common name “armoured spiders” (Shear 1978, Lehtinen 1981, Jocqué & Dippenaar-Schoeman 2006). They have a dorsal shield of prosoma heavily sclerotized, usually with rugous, pitted or reticulated surface, distinctly modified in the males of many genera. They lack direct eyes (anterior median), and several genera may lack some or all of the indirect eyes as well. One of the recognized tribes, Tetrablemini (subfamily Tetrableminae), contains the type genus of the family: *Tetrablemma* O. Pickard-Cambridge typically known by having four eyes displaced posteriorly in males, which have a convex clypeus, sometimes with tubercles, and chelicerae with anterior horns (Figs 6, 8–9; Lehtinen 1981: 56; Tong & Li 2008; Burger 2008).

We examined a small series of a *Tetrablemma* species collected in Myanmar which does not belong to any of the previously known species. The aim of this contribution is to describe this new species.

Specimens are deposited in the California Academy of Sciences (CAS, Charles E. Griswold). Female internal genitalia were digested in KOH as in Platnick *et al.* (1999). Drawings were made with camera lucida mounted on a compound microscope Olympus BH-2. Photographs of the preserved specimens were taken with a digital camera Nikon DXM1200 mounted on a stereomicroscope Nikon SMZ1500 and the extended focal range images composed with Helicon Focus 3.10.3 and 4.01 Pro (Khmelik *et al.* 2006). The format of descriptions follows mostly Lehtinen (1981). Measurements are expressed in millimeters.

Taxonomy

Tetrablemma thamin, n. sp.

(Figs 1–11)

Type material: Male holotype and female paratype from Myanmar, Magwe Division, Shweseztaw Wildlife Reservation, N20°05'51.1", E94°33'24.5", elev. 450 m, deciduous forest, under rocks, 28.–29.IX.2003, leg. D. Ubick, deposited in CAS (CASENT 9017092). (Holotype voucher codes ARAMR000301, preparation codes CJG-00119, FML-00574; paratype voucher codes ARAMR000300, preparation codes CJG-00120, FML-00575).

Additional material examined: Same data as the types, 2 males, 8 females and one juvenile (CAS; voucher codes ARAMR000120, 125, 838, 862; preparation codes CJG-00116, CJG-00127, FML-00281–289).

Etymology: The specific name is a noun in apposition that refers to the thamin deer (*Cervus eldi thamin*), an endangered cervid typical of Myanmar, protected in the Shweseztaw Wildlife Reservation. The long and curved cheliceral horns of the males resemble the frontal branches of the horns of thamin males.

Diagnosis: Males of *Tetrablemma thamin* n. sp. resemble those of *T. brevidens* Tong & Li and *T. magister* Burger by the pear-shaped copulatory bulb and the shape of the embolus (Fig. 1; Tong & Li 2008: figs. 5 G–H; Burger 2008: fig. 19). However, *T. thamin* n. sp. can be distinguished from both species by having two acute retrolateral processes at the base of the embolus instead of a blunt process or inconspicuous one respectively (Fig. 3; Tong & Li 2008: fig. 5 F; Burger 2008: fig. 19). Also they can be distinguished by the shape of cheliceral horns (Figs. 8–9; Tong & Li 2008: fig. 5 C; Burger 2008: figs. 15, 18), and the prosoma reticulated pattern, which in *T. thamin* n. sp. present some smooth areas, not as in the other two species. Females of *T. thamin* n. sp. resemble those of *T. vietnamensis* Lehtinen, *T. brevidens* and