





Description of two new spider genera of Trechaleidae (Araneae: Lycosoidea) from Northern Brazil

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Abstract

Two new genera of Trechaleidae are described and illustrated. *Amapalea* **gen. n.**, type species *A. brasiliana* **sp. n.**, from Amapá, and *Magnichela* **gen. n.**, type species *M. santeremensis* from Pará, both states located in Northern Brazil region. *Amapalea* presents a tegular projection not found in any other Trechaleidae genera, like *Paratrechalea* Carico, 2005 and *Paradossenus* F.O.P.-Cambridge, 1903. *Magnichela* **gen. n.** can be distinguished from the other genera and from *Amapalea* **gen. n.**, by the enlarged and apically expanded chelicerae.

Key words: Spiders, taxonomy, Neotropical region

Introduction

The spiders of the family Trechaleidae are characterized by the following morphological characters: eyes arranged in two rows, presence of a tibial apophysis and a ventrodistal refolded rim on male palpal tibia. Male palpus with a large median apophysis with a dorsal embolic groove extending into the guide. Female epigynum generally heavily sclerotized, dark and opaque, the epigynal plate is conspicuous and the anterior field wide and usually distinct from the lateral lobes and the female build a discoid and flattened egg sac, fixed and carried on the spinnerets (Carico 1993). Most of the species presents flexible tarsi which may be helpful in the spider locomotion on the surface of the water, during foraging. The habitat of the spiders of this family is the vegetation near the margins of rocky streams and small rivers (Carico 1993).

Carico (2005b) recently described two new genera of Trechaleidae (*Paratrechalea* and *Trechaleoides*) from South America, specifically from Southeastern and Southern Brazil. Thus, the family comprises, at presence, 15 genera found mostly at the North, Central and