

Revision of the Australian wolf spider genus *Anomalosa* Roewer, 1960 (Araneae: Lycosidae)

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Abstract

The wolf spider genus *Anomalosa* Roewer, 1960 is revised with *Anomalosa kochi* (Simon, 1898) as type species. *Anomalosa* includes a further Australian species, *A. oz* **sp. nov.** Representatives of *Anomalosa* are small, elongated lycosids with a longitudinal light median band on the dorsal shield of the prosoma and on the opisthosoma, the latter being particularly distinct in males. They are closely related to *Venonia* Thorell, 1894. Similar to *Venonia*, males have a bipartite prolateral tegular lobe on the pedipalp, but it is much larger than in *Venonia* and, in contrast to *Venonia*, larger than the membranous tegular apophysis. *Anomalosa kochi* has only been found in Queensland, whereas the distribution of *A. oz* **sp. nov.** includes New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria. This allopatric distribution coincides with the McPherson Range as a biogeographical border. Although most males and females of *Anomalosa* have been caught in pitfall traps or running freely in moderately moist habitats, such as near creeks and dams, there is evidence that representatives of this genus build sheet-webs similar to *Venonia*. This behaviour is supported by morphological evidence as species of *Anomalosa* have elongated posterior spinnerets. The original description of *A. harishi* (Dyal, 1935) from Panjab, India, does not match the diagnosis of *Anomalosa*. Consequently, I reject the inclusion of *A. harishi* in *Anomalosa* and re-transfer it to its original genus *Anomalomma* Simon, 1890, *Anomalomma harishi* Dyal, 1935, pending a systematic revision of this genus.

Key words: taxonomy, systematics, new species, Venoniinae, *Anomalomma*

Introduction

The Australian wolf spider fauna includes members of three different subfamilies, Lycosinae Sundevall, 1833, Venoniinae Lehtinen & Hippa, 1979 and an unnamed subfamily represented by genera such as *Artoria* Thorell, 1877, *Tetrallycosa* Roewer, 1960, and *Diahogna* Roewer, 1960 (e.g., Framenau 2002, 2005, 2006; Framenau *et al.* in press; Murphy *et al.* 2006). The Venoniinae are the least diverse subfamily in Australia