



One new species of scorpion belonging to the genus *Euscorpions* Vachon, 1980 from South China (Scorpiones: Euscorpionidae, Scorpioninae)

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Abstract

A new species of scorpion, *Euscorpions yangi* sp. nov. (Euscorpionidae) is described from Maguang County, Yunnan Province, China. The new species can be characterized by 18 external trichobothria (5 *eb*, 2 *esb*, 2 *em*, 4 *est*, 5 *et*) and 9 to 10 ventral trichobothria in the pedipalp patella; a narrow and elongated chela with a length vs width ratio equal to 3.4 on males and 3.3 on female; cheliceral movable finger with 5 basal teeth on ventral edge.

Key words: scorpion, taxonomy, *Euscorpions*, new species, Yunnan Province, China

Introduction

The genus *Scorpions* Vachon, 1980, subfamily Scorpionsinae Kraepelin, 1905, formerly included in the family Vaejovidae Thorell, 1876 was revised by Vachon (1980) who proposed three subgenera, *Alloscorpions*, *Euscorpions* and *Neoscorpions*, in addition to the nominotypical subgenus *Scorpions*. The subgenus *Euscorpions* was distinguished from the subgenus *Scorpions* by the number of external trichobothria on the pedipalp patella: 18–20 in *Euscorpions* compared with 17 in *Scorpions*. Lourenço (1998) raised the subgenus *Euscorpions* to genus level and the subfamily Scorpionsinae to family level, Scorpionidae. Soleglad & Sissom (2001) downgraded Scorpionidae again to subfamily level, and placed it in the family Euscorpionidae. These authors also amended the diagnosis of the genus *Euscorpions* on the basis of the position of chela trichobothrium *Eb*₃ in relation to the position of trichobothria *Dt* and *Est*. Subsequently, Kovařík (2005) described three new species, and proposed a key for the genus *Euscorpions*.

The genus *Euscorpions* is a small group of scorpions comprising 15 species with a narrow distribution in Southwest Asia including India, Vietnam, Laos, Burma, Bhutan, Thailand and China (Tikader & Bastawade, 1983; Kovařík, 2000, 2004, 2005; Zhu, Qi & Lourenço, 2005). Four species have been recorded from China: *Euscorpions novaki* Kovařík, 2005 (Tibet), *Euscorpions vachoni* Zhu, Qi & Lourenço, 2005 (Yunnan); *Euscorpions karschi* Lourenço, Zhu & Qi, 2005 (Tibet) and *Euscorpions shidian* Zhu, Qi & Lourenço, 2005 (Yunnan).

The recent study of several scorpions collected in Yunnan Province, China, revealed a new species, *Euscorpions yangi* sp. nov., which is the fifth species of the genus *Euscorpions* to be recorded from China.