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Article



Draposa, a new wolf spider genus from South and Southeast Asia (Araneae: Lycosidae)

TORBJÖRN KRONESTEDT

Department of Entomology, Swedish Museum of Natural History, Box 50007, SE-104 05 Stockholm, Sweden. E-mail: torbjorn.kronestedt@nrm.se

Abstract

Draposa gen. nov. is proposed for eight wolf spider species from the Indomalayan Region, all of which were previously placed in the genus *Pardosa: Draposa atropalpis* (Gravely,1924) comb. nov., *D. lyrivulva* (Bösenberg & Strand, 1906) comb. nov. (=*Pardosa leucopalpis* Gravely, 1924 syn. nov.), *D. nicobarica* (Thorell, 1891) comb. nov., *D. oakleyi* (Gravely, 1924) comb. nov., *D. porpaensis* (U. A. Gajbe, 2004) comb. nov., *D. subhadrae* (Patel & Reddy, 1993) comb. nov., *D. tenasserimensis* (Thorell, 1895) comb. nov., and *D. zhanjiangensis* (Yin, Wang, Peng & Xie, 1995) comb. nov. Species of *Draposa* share synapomorphies in the copulatory organs, *inter alia* a complex subpaleal sclerite in the terminal part of the male bulbus. The presence of *D. lyrivulva* in Japan is put in doubt and the species should be excluded from the list of spiders in that country. *Draposa nicobarica* (type species) and *D. tenasserimensis* are redescribed and illustrated for the first time from the type material. *Draposa atropalpis* is redescribed from material from India and Sri Lanka, *D. lyrivulva* and *D. subhadrae* (first record outside India) from material collected in Sri Lanka and *D. oakleyi* from material from India and Bangladesh.

Key words: Taxonomy, Pardosa, Indomalayan region

Introduction

The world-wide spider family Lycosidae Sundevall, 1833 (wolf spiders) comprises 2367 currently recognised species, of which 526 species (with 22 additional intraspecific taxa) are assigned to the genus *Pardosa* C. L. Koch, 1847 (Platnick 2010). Among the South Asian species hitherto allocated to this genus, many remain poorly known and await morphological scrutiny of their copulatory organs in order to facilitate identification as well as further comparative systematic analyses.

Species of the speciose and heterogeneous genus *Pardosa sensu lato* have been described from all continents except Antarctica. Several of these species are placed in separate informal species groups, some of which are based on putative synapomorphies. The breakup of this vast assemblage of species commenced with the erection of the genus *Wadicosa* Zyuzin, 1985, preliminarily encompassing several species formerly placed in *Pardosa* or *Lycosa* Latreille, 1804 in the Old World (cf. Kronestedt 1987). Of the few species in Australia originally assigned to *Pardosa*, only *P. pexa* Hickman, 1944 remains in this genus (Platnick 2010). The original illustration of the palp of this species, however, shows it to belong to the subfamily Lycosinae Sundevall, 1833. Consequently, the genus *Pardosa sensu lato* is absent from Australia. Among the numerous African species formerly assigned to *Pardosa*, *P. foveolata* Purcell, 1903, along with some related species, were recently separated by Russell-Smith *et al.* (2007) in the genus *Foveosa* Russell-Smith, Alderweireldt & Jocqué, 2007. Also recently, the genus *Bogdocosa* Ponomarev & Belosludtsev, 2008 was erected for a newly described lycosid species from the Astrakhan area in Russia (Ponomarev *et al.* 2008). Further Asian species, currently placed in *Pardosa*, are candidates for transfer to *Bogdocosa* (T. Kronestedt & Y.M. Marusik, unpublished data).