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A Taxonomic Revision of the Genus *Erigonoplus* Simon 1884 (Araneae: Linyphiidae: Erigoninae)

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The genus *Erigonoplus* was created by E. Simon in 1884 (p. 724) for the following species:

Erigonoplus inclarus (Simon 1882)

E. nigerrimus (Simon 1884) – later (Simon 1926) synonymized with *E. inclarus*

E. nigrocaeruleus (Simon 1882)

E. globipes (L. Koch 1874)

E. turriger (Simon 1882)

E. justus (O. P.-Cambridge 1875)

E. castellanus (O. P.-Cambridge 1875)

E. inclarus is the type species under the "first species" rule.

The genus was defined in 1884 by the size and arrangement of the eyes, and by the presence on the undersides of the anterior femora of two rows of long spines or bristles, often longer in the distal half. The males usually had a cephalic lobe, but not in the type species.

In 1894 (p. 617) Simon synonymized the genus *Erigonoplus* with *Caracladus* Simon 1884, but in his posthumous treatise (1926, p. 485) the genus was resurrected for the type species *inclarus* alone. The remaining species, except *castellanus*, were transferred to *Trichopterna* Chyzer and Kulczynski 1894, while *castellanus* was placed in a new genus, *Cotyora* Simon 1926. In 1943, Miller rightly decided

that *globipes* did not fall in *Trichopterna*, and created for it a new genus *Erigonopterna*, in which he placed also his new species *jarmilae* Miller 1943. In 1965, Denis placed *justus* rather doubtfully in *Acartauchenius* Simon 1884.

The author has recently re-examined as many as possible of the species originally placed by Simon in *Erigonoplus*, and in addition the species *Erigonopterna jarmilae*. These were as follows:

Erigonoplus inclarus: 3♂ (2 labelled *E. nigerrimus*) loaned from Paris (MNHN), rather depilated but the palpal organs still in good condition; ♀ unknown.

"*Trichopterna*" *nigrocaerulea*: ♂ loaned from Paris (MNHN), in good condition but slightly depilated; ♀ unknown.

"*T.*" *turrigera*: ditto.

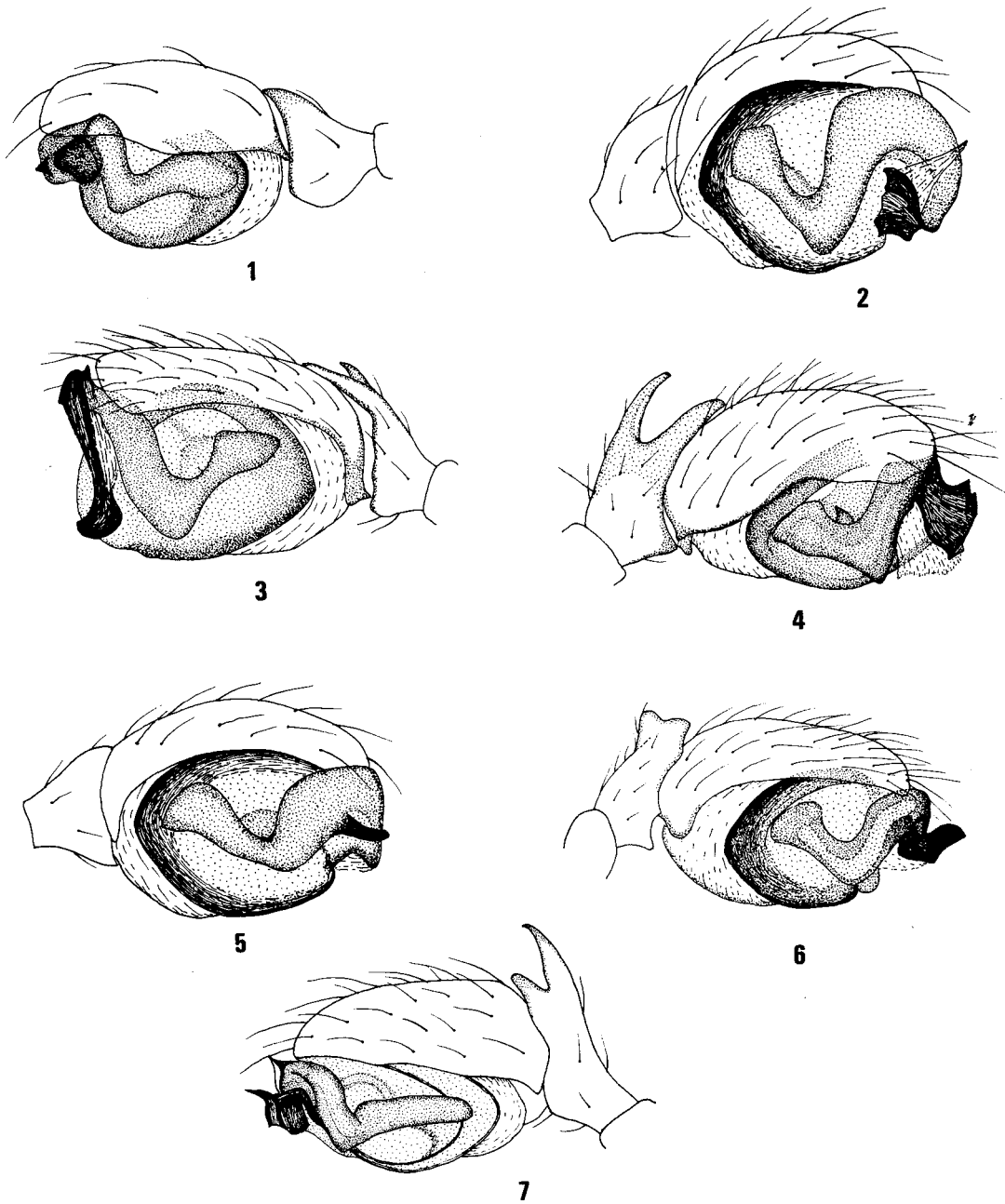
"*T.*" *justa*: ♂ loaned from Oxford (Hope Department), in relatively good condition; 2♂ and immature ♀ in good condition loaned from Brussels (Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique). Adult ♀ unknown.

"*Erigonopterna*" *globipes*, "*E.*" *jarmilae*: Both sexes very kindly donated by Professor Miller (Brno).

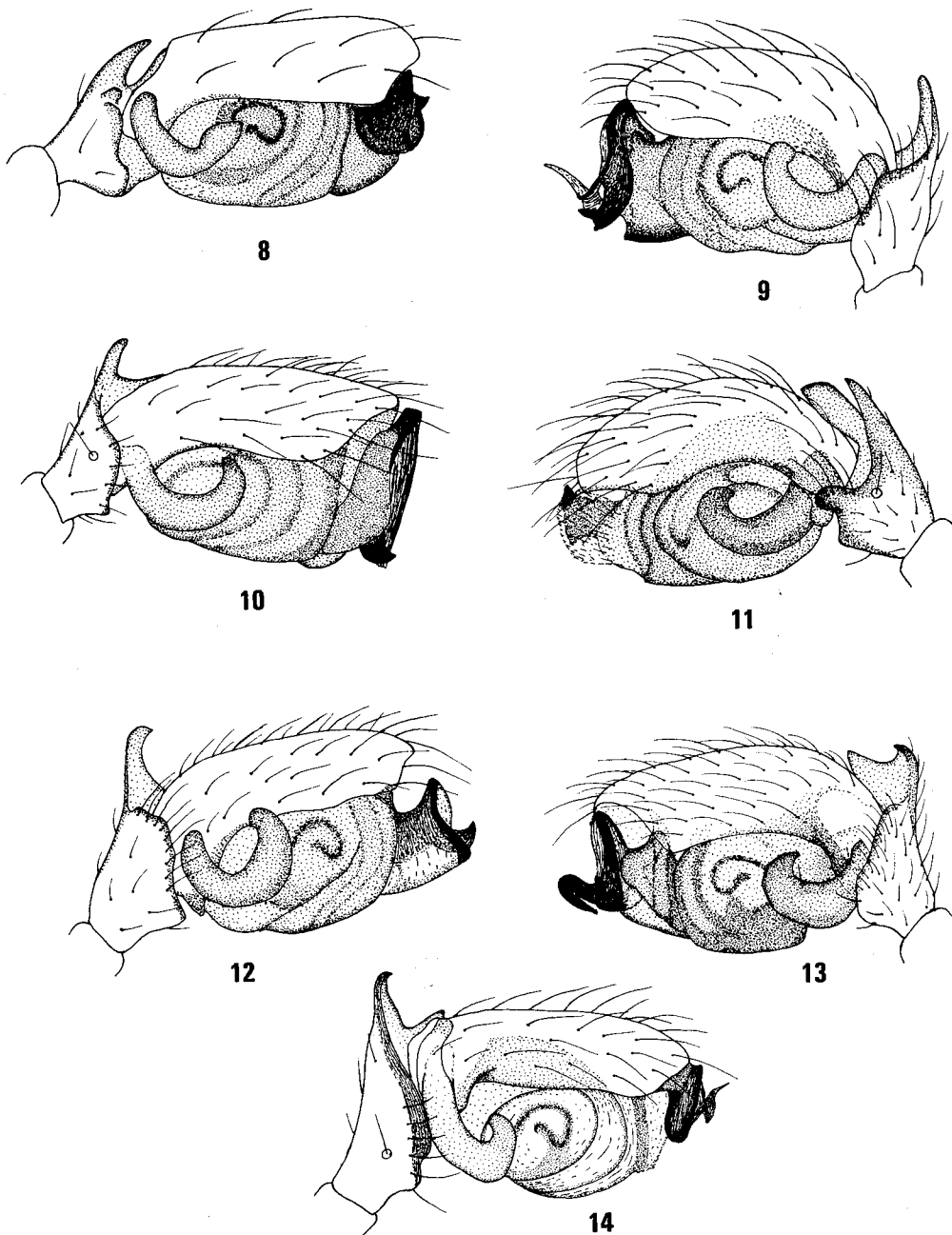
"*Erigone*" *castellana*: ♀♂ loaned by Oxford (Hope Department), in good condition.

These species are figured in Figs. 1-36.

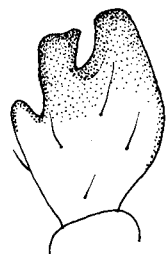
It has not been possible to obtain from Paris any specimens of *Trichopterna krueperi* (Simon) which Simon (1926, p. 484 footnote) says is similar to *T. turrigera*. It is to be noted that with the exception of *globipes* and *jarmilae* the species are all of extreme rarity, and that four of them appear not to have been re-taken since their original captures some 90-100 years ago.



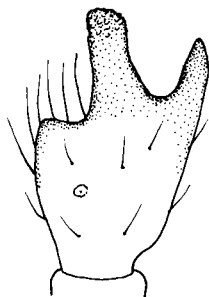
Figs. 1-7 Male palps, viewed from inside and below: 1 *E. inclarus*; 2 *E. nigrocaeruleus*; 3 *E. globipes*; 4 *E. jarmilae*; 5 *E. turriger*; 6 *E. justus*; 7 *Cotyora castellana*.



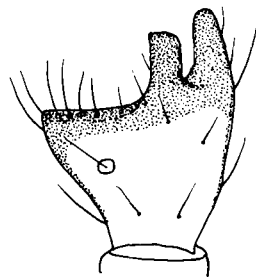
Figs. 8-14 Male palps, viewed from outside: 8 *E. inclarus*; 9 *E. nigrocaeruleus*; 10 *E. globipes*; 11 *E. jarmilae*; 12 *E. turriger*; 13 *E. justus*; 14 *C. castellana*.



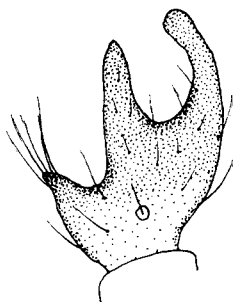
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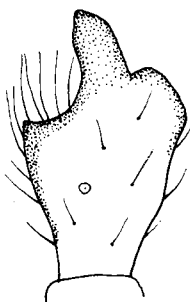
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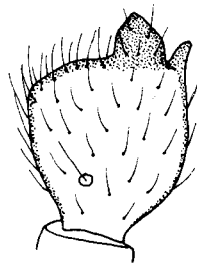
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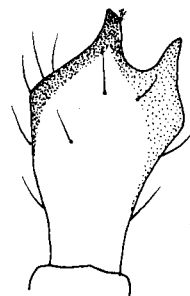
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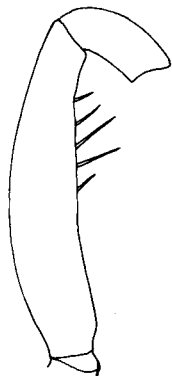
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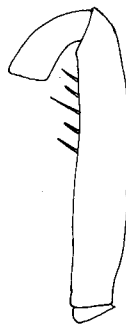
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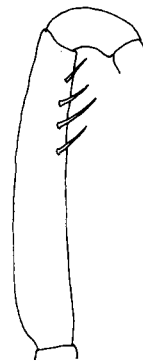
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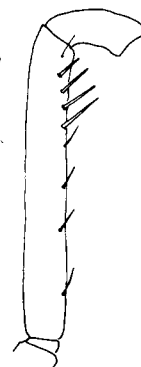
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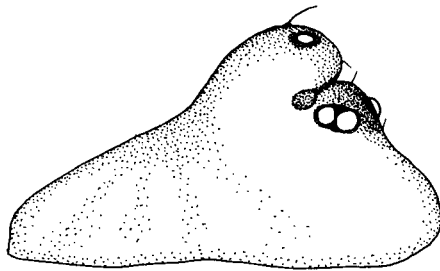
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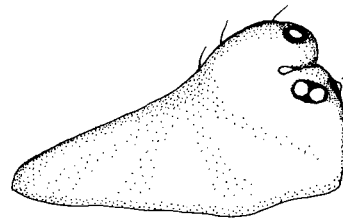
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Figs. 15-21 Male palpal tibiae (left), viewed from above: 15 *E. inclarus*; 16 *E. nigrocaeruleus*; 17 *E. globipes*; 18 *E. jarmilae*; 19 *E. turriger*; 20 *E. justus*; 21 *C. castellana*.

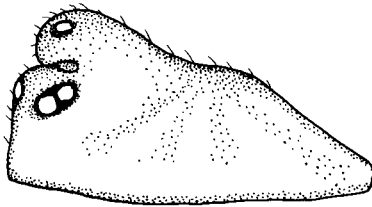
Figs. 22-27 Male femoral spines: 22 *E. nigrocaeruleus*; 23 *E. globipes*; 24 *E. jarmilae*; 25 *E. turriger*; 26 *E. justus*; 27 *C. castellana*.



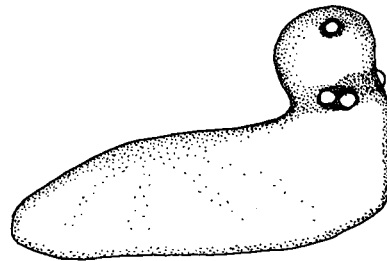
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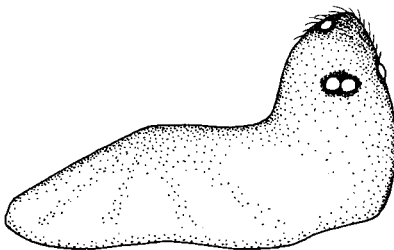
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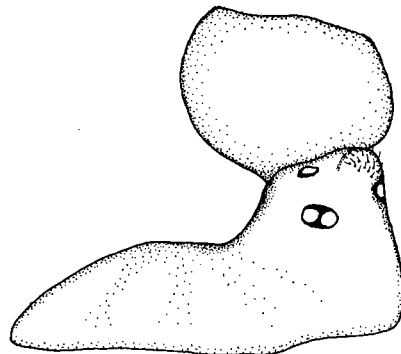
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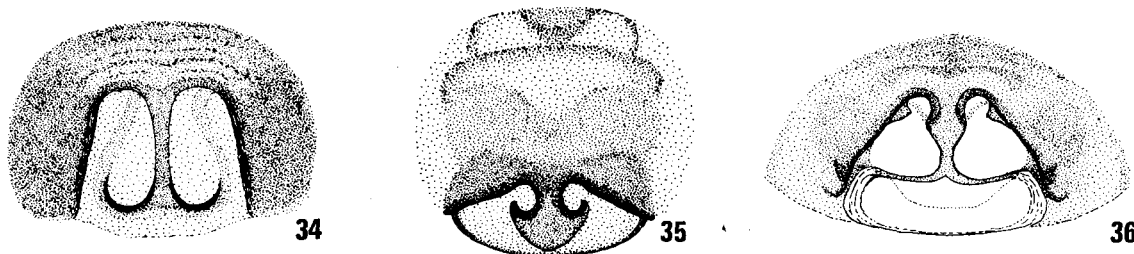


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Figs. 28-33 Male carapaces, viewed from side: 28 *E. nigrocaeruleus*; 29 *E. globipes*; 30 *E. jarmilae*; 31 *E. turriger*; 32 *E. justus*; 33 *C. castellana*.

In the examination of these species, particular attention was paid to the male palpal organs, but because of the paucity of specimens it was not possible to expand the palp. Nevertheless, even without expansion the palps of all the species are seen to be closely similar in plan, the embolic division being composed of a massive sickle-shaped radical part (as noted by Miller, 1943) which is clearly visible

when the unexpanded palp is viewed from inside and below (Figs. 1-7). The embolic part, at the front end of the "sickle", is complicated and variable in shape. The paracymbium is large and prominent in all the species (Figs. 8-14). The palpal tibial apophyses (Figs. 15-21) are basically similar in plan, there being usually two apophyses. In addition the males (except *E. inclarus*) have a characteristic grouping of stout



Figs. 34-36 Female epigynes: 34 *E. globipes*; 35 *E. jarmilae*; 36 *C. castellana*.

spines beneath the distal half of femora I (Figs. 22-27); *E. inclarus* has a row of stout spines (which become shorter distally) beneath femora I, but does not appear to have the distinct grouping present in the other species, though this is somewhat uncertain because of the degree of depilation. As noted above all the males except *inclarus* have a raised caput (Figs. 28-33). The females (where known) have two irregular rows of spines below femora I, there being one or two longer spines near the apex; the epigynes of the three species where the female is known are of rather similar structure (Figs. 34-36). All the species (including *inclarus*) have a rather coriaceous abdomen bearing moderately long stout curved bristles, somewhat longer in the male than in the female. All the species have a trichobothrium on metatarsi I-III at a position of approximately 0.4-0.45, and all (except *castellana*) have a single spine on each tibia; *castellana* has two spines on tibiae I and II.

The species *castellana*, which possesses two spines on tibiae I and II, and has a highly abnormal "super-caput" in the male (Fig. 33), should probably be retained for the present in the separate genus *Cotyora*. This view is debatable, since at least one case is known where an otherwise typical species of a genus has an untypical leg spinal formula (genus *Araeoncus*, see Holm (1962, p. 84)).

As a result of this re-examination it seems that Simon's instinct in 1884 for the genus *Erigonopus* was for the most part well-based. Since the species *globipes* and *jarmilae* seem to fit adequately into the genus *Erigonopus*, the genus *Erigonopterna* must now be regarded as a synonym of *Erigonopus*.

The author proposes that the genus *Erigonopus* Simon 1884 should therefore comprise the following species:

E. inclarus (Simon) — type species

E. nigrocaeruleus (Simon)
E. globipes (L. Koch)
E. jarmilae (Miller)
E. turriger (Simon)
E. justus (O. P.-Cambridge)

Acknowledgements

The author expresses his sincere thanks to the Museums at Paris (Monsieur M. Hubert), Oxford (Mr E. Taylor) and Brussels (Monsieur J. Kekenbosch) for the loan of specimens, and to Professor Dr F. Miller for his generous gift of specimens.

Summary

As a result of a taxonomic revision of the genus *Erigonopus* Simon 1884, based on the structure of the male palpal organs and on other characters, it is proposed that the following species should be included in *Erigonopus*: *inclarus* (Simon) (type), *nigrocaeruleus* (Simon), *globipes* (L. Koch), *jarmilae* (Miller), *turriger* (Simon), *justus* (O. P.-Cambr.). The species *Erigone castellana* O. P.-Cambr. should be retained in *Cotyora* E. Simon 1926.

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