

Neotropical spiders of the genus *Argyrodes* Simon (Araneae, Theridiidae)

Alda González and Dolores del Carmen Castro

Facultad de Ciencias Naturales y Museo,
1900 La Plata, Argentina

Summary

The neotropical spiders of the genus *Argyrodes* are revised. This genus includes 71 American species. The present work enlarges the known geographical distribution of 11 neotropical species and 18 new species are described.

Introduction

The genus *Argyrodes* Simon occurs in tropical and subtropical areas. Exline & Levi (1962) and Levi (1967) carried out revisions of American species and pointed out that they are numerous but not well known owing to the scarcity of specimens in collections. Hitherto, two species have been recorded from Argentina, *A. elevatus* Taczanowski and *A. attenuatus* (O.P.-Cambridge) (Exline & Levi, 1962).

Species of *Argyrodes* live as commensals in webs of larger spiders, and especially frequently as kleptoparasites in *Nephila clavipes* (Linnaeus) webs. One web may contain more than one spider and sometimes more than one species. *A. amplifrons* O.P.-Cambridge, *A. mariae* sp. n. and especially *A. elevatus* have been collected in webs of *N. clavipes* in Parque Lago, Rio de Janeiro and Foz Iguazú, Paraná, Brazil by Mary Whitehouse; *A. elevatus*, *A. nephilae* Taczanowski, *A. acuminatus* Keyserling, *A. altus* Keyserling, *A. morretenensis* sp. n. and *A. caronae* sp. n. have also been collected in *Nephila* sp. webs in Morretes, Paraná, Brazil by Solange Fatima Caron; specimens of *A. elevatus* have been collected in webs of *Eriophora* sp. and *Latrodectus antheratus* (Badcock) in Chaco, Argentina by Osvaldo Di Iorio.

The genus *Argyrodes* includes 71 American species. The present work enlarges the known geographical distribution of 11 neotropical species and 18 new species are described, following the groups established by Exline & Levi (1962).

Material and methods

The identification of species is based on the examination of types deposited in the collections of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University, USA (MCZ), Museo de Ciencias Naturales de La Plata, Argentina (MLP) and Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales "Bernardino Rivadavia", Buenos Aires, Argentina (MACN). The following abbreviations are used: SFC=Solange Fatima Caron collection, DI=Osvaldo Di Iorio collection; AME=anterior median eyes, PME=posterior median eyes, ALE=anterior lateral eyes, PLE=posterior lateral eyes, LE=lateral eyes.

Measurements are in millimetres. Drawings were done using a stereoscopic binocular microscope. Epigynes were cleared in clove oil.

Terminology and measurements basically follow Exline & Levi (1962).

A. argyrodes group

Argyrodes elevatus Taczanowski

Argyrodes elevatus Taczanowski, 1873a: 120, pl. 5, fig. 12. Female holotype from Uassa, French Guiana, in Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw. Exline & Levi, 1962: 134, figs. 128–132.

Argyrodes decorus Banks, 1908: 207. Female holotype from San Pedro, Los Angeles, California (MCZ), examined.

Argyrodes biclavis Chamberlin, 1924: 5, pl. 1, figs. 2–5. Male holotype from Aimesville, Louisiana (MCZ), examined.

Conopistha elongata Bryant, 1940: 306, pl. 5, figs. 68, 69, 75, 76. Male holotype from Soledad, Las Villas, Cuba (MCZ), examined.

Conopistha argentinus Mello Leitão, 1941: 143, fig. 39. Male holotype from Mojón, Salta, Argentina (MLP), examined.

Distribution: Southern USA (rare in west), Mexico, El Salvador, Panama, Bahamas, Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Mona Is., Desecheo Is., Puerto Rico, Virgin Is., Lesser Antilles, Venezuela, Ecuador, Galapagos Is., Peru, Brazil, Paraguay, Argentina.

New records: Argentina, Brazil and Costa Rica.

Material examined: ARGENTINA: Jujuy: Yuto, El Pantano, 1♀ (MACN 9158), March 1967 (coll. Galiano). Salta: between Pampa Vieja and Pampa Blanca, 1♂ (MACN 9156), March 1967 (coll. Galiano); Campamento Vespucio, 1♀ (MACN 9157), May 1983 (coll. Goloboff). Misiones: Cataratas del Iguazu, 2♂ (MACN 9159), November 1989 (coll. Ramirez); Obera, 2♂ 1♀ (MACN 9160), 4 April 1968 (coll. Galiano). Chaco: Tres Estacas, 3♂ 1♀ (DI), 18 March 1991 (coll. Di Iorio); Resistencia, 2♂ 2♀ (DI), March 1991 (coll. Di Iorio). Santa Fe: Arroyo El Toba and Ruta 11, 1♀ (MACN 9161), 17 February 1964 (coll. Galiano). Entre Ríos: Victoria, 1♀ (MACN 9152), February 1982 (coll. S. Roig, A. Roig, Goloboff); El Palmar National Park, 1♂ (MACN 9153), February 1981 (coll. Goloboff); 3♂ 2♀ (MACN 9154), 28 March 1986 (coll. Ramirez); Rosario del Tala, 1♀ (MACN 9155), November 1988 (coll. Goloboff-Szunik). San Luis: Merlo, 1♀ (MLP 17165), July 1987 (coll. González). Buenos Aires: Pereyra Iraola National Park, 2♂ 50♀ (MACN 9147), March 1982 (coll. Miranda-Ramirez); Capital Federal, 1♀ (MACN 9148), 1 March 1981 (coll. Ramirez); Paraná de Las Palmas, 1♂ (MACN 9149), June 1967 (coll. Bachman); San Pedro, Estancia El Centinela, 1♀ (MACN 9150), no date, no collector; Punta Lara, 1♂ 1♀ (MLP 17164), February 1982 (coll. González); San Fernando, 1♀ (MACN 9151) (coll. Daguerre). BRAZIL: Rio de Janeiro: Rio Jacarepagua Natural Reserve, 1♀ (MACN 9145), 19 October 1964 (coll. San Martin and Mauri); Parque Lago, 2♂ 10♀ (MLP 17182), 18 January 1992; Praia Vermelha, 2♂ 1♀ (MLP 17181), 18 January 1992. Paraná: Morretes, 7♂ 4♀ (SFC), 6 April 1991; 1♂ (SFC), 23 March 1991; 3♂ 2♀ (SFC), 30 May 1991; 2♀ (SFC), 19 May 1991 (coll. Caron); Foz Iguazú, 1♀ (MLP 17183), 19 January 1992 (coll. Whitehouse). Rio Grande Do Sul: Torres, 1♀ (MACN 9146), 7 January 1981 (coll. Goloboff). COSTA RICA: 1♀ (MLP 17184), 22 March 1992 (coll. Whitehouse).

Argyrodes nephilae Taczanowski

Argyrodes nephilae Taczanowski, 1873a: 114. Male and female synatypes. Exline & Levi, 1962: 139, figs. 133–137, male lectotype designated from Cayenne, French Guiana, in Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw.

Argyrodes rostratus Banks, 1908: 207, fig. 9. Male holotype from Miami, Florida, USA (MCZ), examined.

Distribution: USA, Bermuda, West Indies, Bahamas, Cuba, Grand Cayman, Jamaica, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Virgin Is., Martinique, St Lucia, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Galapagos Is.

New records: Argentina and Brazil.

Material examined: ARGENTINA: Entre Ríos: Victoria, 1♀ (MACN 9162), (coll. S. Roig, A. Roig, Goloboff). San Luis: Merlo, 1♀ (MLP 17166), July 1987 (coll. González). BRAZIL: Paraná: Morretes, 3♀ (SFC), 23 March 1991; 1♀ (SFC), 19 May 1991 (coll. Caron).

A. cancellatus group

Argyrodes amplifrons O.P.-Cambridge

Argyrodes amplifrons O.P.-Cambridge, 1880: 339, pl. 30, fig. 17. Male and female syntypes from Amazonas, Brazil, in Hope Department of Entomology, Oxford University. Exline & Levi, 1962: 155, figs. 217–224.

Distribution: Panama, Peru, Brazil, Paraguay, Bolivia.
New records: Argentina.

Material examined: ARGENTINA: Misiones: Puerto Iguazu, 2♀ (MLP 17185), 21 January 1992 (coll. Whitehouse); General Belgrano, 1♀ (MACN 9163), November 1954 (coll. Galiano-Schiapelli).

Argyrodes acuminatus Keyserling

Argyrodes acuminatus Keyserling, 1891: 207, pl. 7, fig. 149. Male and female syntypes from Serra Vermelha, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in British Museum (Natural History). Exline & Levi, 1962: 157, figs. 225–230.

Distribution: Brazil.

New records: Argentina and Brazil.

Material examined: ARGENTINA: Misiones: Piñalito, 1♂ (MACN 9164), January 1966 (coll. Galiano); Cataratas del Iguazu, 2♂ (MACN 9165), 5 September 1963 (coll. Galiano); 1♂, November 1989 (coll. Ramirez); Puerto Iguazu, 1♂ (MACN 9167), 6 November 1970 (coll. Galiano). BRAZIL: Paraná: Morretes, 1♂ (SFC), 19 May 1991 (coll. Caron).

Argyrodes altus Keyserling

Argyrodes altus Keyserling, 1891: 211, pl. 8, fig. 152. Female holotype from Espírito Santo, Brazil, in British Museum (Natural History). Exline & Levi, 1962: 153, figs. 212–216.

Distribution: Venezuela to southern Brazil.

New record: Brazil.

Material examined: BRAZIL: Paraná: Morretes, 1♂ (SFC), 19 May 1991 (coll. Caron).

Argyrodes caudatus (Taczanowski)

Ero caudatus Taczanowski, 1873b: 63. Male and female syntypes from Uassa, French Guiana, in Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw.

Argyrodes caudatus: Keyserling, 1884: 198, pl. 9, fig. 119. Exline & Levi, 1962: 176, figs. 300–322.

Distribution: USA, Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama, Bahamas, Cuba, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Virgin Is., Lesser Antilles, St Vincent, Trinidad, Aruba, Venezuela, Guyana, French Guiana, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, Paraguay.

New records: Argentina.

Material examined: ARGENTINA: Misiones: Cataratas del Iguazu, 1♀ (MACN 9168), 26 March 1968 (coll. Galiano); A. Jacui, Iguazu National Park, 1♀ (MACN 9169), November 1970 (coll. Galiano).

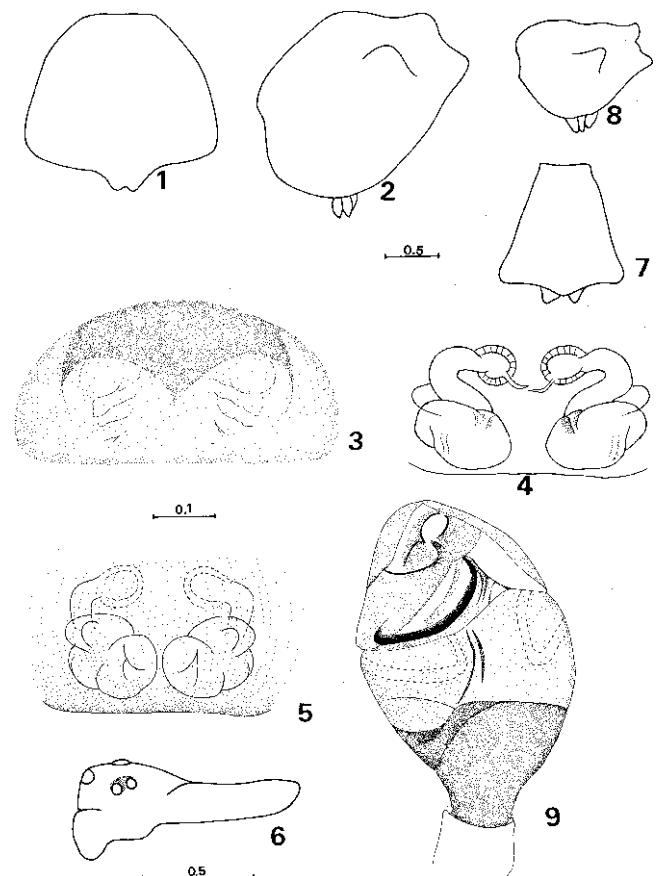
Argyrodes mariae, sp. n. (Figs. 1–9)

Type: Holotype female (MLP 17170) from Puerto Iguazu, Misiones, Argentina, 21 January 1992, coll. Whitehouse.

Etymology: The species is named in honour of the collector.

Diagnosis: Males can be distinguished from those of *A. cancellatus* (Hentz) and *A. caudatus* by shape and length of clypeus, which is straighter and higher in *A. mariae* (Fig. 6), and by shape of palpus (Fig. 9). Females are diagnosed by wide, strongly sclerotised epigynum and by internal ducts swollen near the spermathecae and shorter than in *A. cancellatus* and *A. caudatus* (Figs. 3–5).

Holotype female: Cephalothorax dorsum and ocular area dark brown, ventrally light brown with black coxal areas. AME black. Legs light brown with dark brown rings on terminal area of segments. Palpus light brown with dark brown tarsus. Abdomen dorsum dark brown, almost black, with silvery areas. Ventrally silvery. Cephalothorax elongated, without thoracic groove. Diameter of AME and PME equal (0.075), AME separated by 0.038 and subcontiguous with ALE. Posterior eyes in a



Figs. 1–9: *Argyrodes mariae*, sp. n. 1 Female abdomen, dorsal view; 2 Ditto, lateral view; 3 Epigynum; 4 Vulva, dorsal view; 5 Ditto, ventral view; 6 Male cephalothorax, lateral view; 7 Male abdomen, dorsal view; 8 Ditto, lateral view; 9 Left male palpus, ventral view.

straight row, PME separated by 0.113 and close to PLE (0.05). Abdomen very wide and high, posterior area with lateral and terminal humps (Figs. 1, 2). Epigynum: Strongly sclerotised (Fig. 3). Spermathecae small, close together, ducts swollen (Figs. 4, 5). Measurements: Total length 2.23. Cephalothorax length 0.80, width 0.63. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	1.33	1.30	0.35	0.33	3.31
Leg II	0.88	0.75	0.40	0.40	2.43
Leg III	0.53	0.40	0.33	0.25	1.51
Leg IV	0.83	0.63	0.35	0.28	2.09

Paratype male: Cephalothorax dorsum and ocular area dark brown, darker than female. AME black. Colour of legs as in female. Palpus dark brown. Colour of abdomen dorsum as in female, with two silvery spots horizontally elongated on dorsal anterior area. Ventrally reddish brown with silvery spots laterally. Cephalothorax elongated. Carapace lowest at thoracic groove. Clypeus slightly projecting (Fig. 6). AME smaller than PME (0.05), separated by less than a diameter and widely separated from ALE (0.125). Posterior eyes in a slightly recurved row, PME diameter 0.063, widely separated (0.125) and 0.075 from PLE. Abdomen shorter and narrower than in female (Figs. 7, 8). Humps as in female. Palpus: Fig. 9. Measurements: Total length 2.18. Cephalothorax length 1.10, width 0.75. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	1.75	1.88	1.05	0.63	5.31
Leg II	1.20	1.10	0.58	0.48	3.36
Leg III	0.50	0.63	0.33	0.33	1.79
Leg IV	0.95	0.80	0.43	0.35	2.53

Material examined: ARGENTINA: Misiones: Puerto Iguazu, 2♂ 1♀ paratypes (MLP 17171), 21 January 1992, coll. Whitehouse.

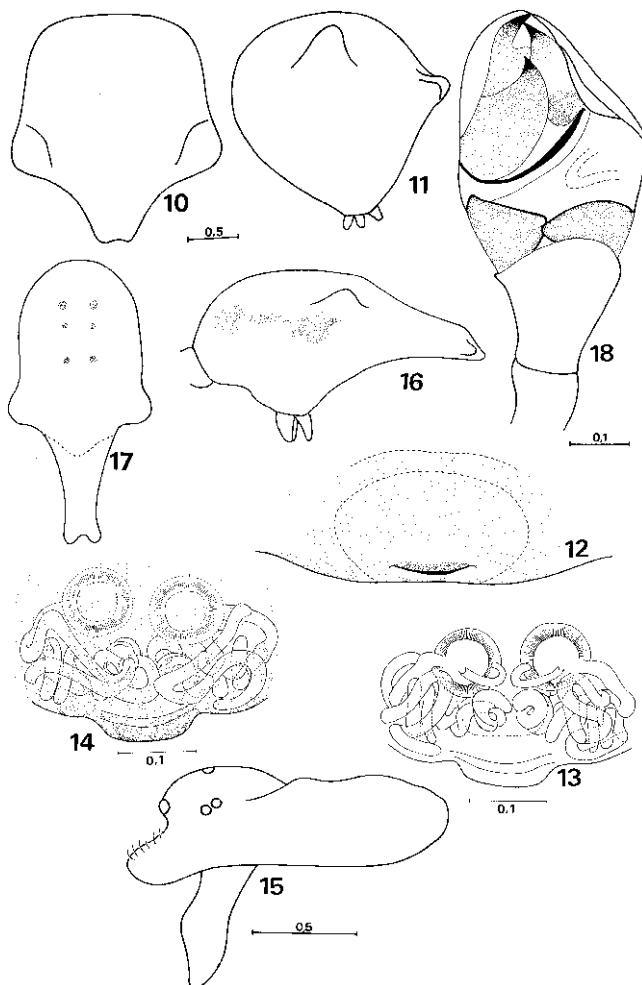
Argyrodes morretensis, sp. n. (Figs. 10–18)

Type: Holotype female (SFC) from Morretes, Paraná, Brazil, 6 April 1991, coll. Caron.

Etymology: The specific name is a latinised adjective derived from the name of the type locality.

Diagnosis: Females can be distinguished from those of *A. rigidus* Exline & Levi by the size of the epigynal openings, being smaller in *A. morretensis*, and by the number of rolls of the spermatic ducts, being more in *A. morretensis* (Figs. 12–14); their exact course is difficult to follow. The tubes are similar to but longer than those of *A. altus*. The epigynum is different. Males can be distinguished from those of *A. striatus* Keyserling by the more projecting clypeus (Fig. 15) and form of palpus (Fig. 18).

Holotype female: Cephalothorax dorsum and ocular area dark brown, ventrally light brown. AME black. Legs light brown with dark brown rings on medial and terminal areas of segments. Palpus light brown with dark brown tarsus. Abdomen dorsum light brown with silvery areas and with medial and lateral lines dark brown. Ventrally brown and silvery. Cephalothorax elongated, with thoracic groove. AME larger



Figs. 10–18: *Argyrodes morretensis*, sp. n. 10 Female abdomen, dorsal view; 11 Ditto, lateral view; 12 Epigynum; 13 Vulva, dorsal view; 14 Ditto, ventral view; 15 Male cephalothorax, lateral view; 16 Male abdomen, lateral view; 17 Ditto, dorsal view; 18 Left male palpus, ventral view.

than PME (0.088), separated from each other by 0.1 and from ALE by 0.05. Posterior eyes in straight row, PME diameter 0.075, widely separated (0.125) and 0.063 from PLE. Abdomen globe-shaped, elevated with lateral and terminal humps (Figs. 10, 11). Epigynum: Seminal receptacles large, separated by nearly a radius. Tubes very long and narrow, of uniform diameter and following a very tortuous path, not forming definite spirals (Figs. 12–14). Measurements: Total length 3.30. Cephalothorax length 1.05, width 0.75. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	1.75	1.90	0.90	0.90	5.45
Leg II	1.05	1.15	0.60	0.50	3.30
Leg III	0.65	0.55	0.35	0.30	1.85
Leg IV	0.95	0.80	0.50	0.40	2.65

Paratype male: Cephalothorax dorsum as in female, ventrally brown with border dark brown. Legs brown, palpus brown with dark brown tarsus. Colour of abdomen dorsum as in female, with three sclerotised dark brown spots. Ventrally light brown. Clypeus strongly projecting (Fig. 15). AME separated by their diameter (0.1) and 0.15 from ALE. Posterior eyes in a slightly recurved row, PME diameter 0.075, separated by 0.125,

and 0.11 from PLE. Abdomen elongated, with two lateral humps and a posterior projection with two terminal humps (Figs. 16, 17). Palpus: Fig. 18. Measurements: Total length 4.35. Cephalothorax length 1.40, width 0.90. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	2.50	2.50	1.30	0.75	7.05
Leg II	1.30	1.25	0.65	0.60	3.80
Leg III	0.90	0.90	0.40	0.35	2.55
Leg IV	1.20	1.00	0.60	0.45	3.25

Material examined: ARGENTINA: Misiones: Cataratas del Iguazu, 1♀ paratype (MLP 17174), July 1980, coll. González. BRAZIL: Paraná: Morretes, 20♂ 11♀ paratypes (SFC), 4♀ paratypes (MLP 17172), 2♂ paratypes (MLP 17173), 6 April 1991; 20♂ 11♀ paratypes (SFC), 23 March 1991; 7♂ 6♀ paratypes (SFC), 30 May 1991; 1♀ paratype (SFC), 19 May 1991, coll. Caron.

Argyrodes caronae, sp. n. (Figs. 19–22)

Type: Holotype female (SFC) from Morretes, Paraná, Brazil, 30 May 1991, coll. Caron.

Etymology: The species is named in honour of the collector.

Diagnosis: Spermatic tubes thick with membranous walls, similar to those of *A. altus*; they can be distinguished by their more lateral position in *A. caronae* (Figs. 21, 22). Receptacles also more widely separated, and epigynum different from all other species (Fig. 20).

Holotype female: Cephalothorax dorsum and ocular area brown, ventrally light brown. AME black. Legs brown, palpus light brown with dark brown tarsus. Abdomen dorsum and venter light brown with lateral silvery areas. Cephalothorax elongated, but wide posteriorly, without thoracic groove. AME separated by their diameter (0.075) and subcontiguous with ALE. Posterior eyes in a slightly procurved row, PME diameter 0.075, separated by 0.125 and subcontiguous with PLE. Abdomen moderately high and extended behind spinnerets, with a pair of posterior humps (Fig. 19). Epigynum: Slightly sclerotised (Fig. 20). Tubes thick, surrounding the spermathecae, with two independent openings (Figs. 21, 22). Measurements: Total length 2.68. Cephalothorax length 0.90, width 0.68. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	1.60	1.40	0.80	0.52	4.32
Leg II	0.88	0.76	0.48	0.40	2.52
Leg III	0.60	0.48	0.28	0.32	1.68
Leg IV	0.80	0.64	0.36	0.36	2.16

Male: Unknown.

Material examined: BRAZIL: Paraná, Morretes, 2♀ paratypes (MLP 17175), 19 May 1991, coll. Caron.

Argyrodes nataliae, sp. n. (Figs. 23–25)

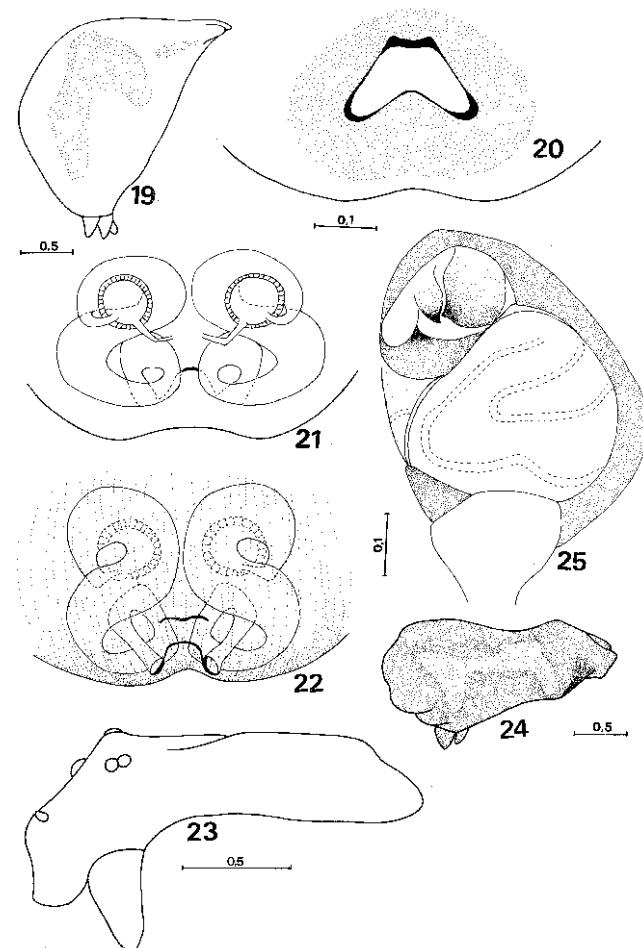
Type: Holotype male (MACN 9190) from A. Jacui, Iguazu National Park, Misiones, Argentina, 6 November 1970, coll. Galiano.

Etymology: This species is named for Natalia Cardulli.

Diagnosis: Shape of clypeus (Fig. 23) and palpus (Fig. 25) distinguishes *A. nataliae* from other species of *Argyrodes*.

Holotype male: Cephalothorax dorsum and venter brown. Ocular area dark brown. AME black. Legs brown, palpus brown with dark brown tarsus. Abdomen dorsum light brown with lateral silvery area (Fig. 24). Ventrally dark brown with two silvery points near spinnerets. Cephalothorax elongated, with thoracic groove. Clypeus very high and strongly projecting in front of chelicerae (Fig. 23). AME diameter larger than PME (0.075), separated by less than a diameter (0.063) and widely separated from ALE by 0.13. Posterior eyes in a straight row, PME diameter 0.055, widely separated (0.138) and 0.1 from PLE. Abdomen elongated, extending beyond spinnerets, terminal area without humps. Palpus: Fig. 25. Measurements: Total length 3.45. Cephalothorax length 1.40, width 0.88. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	2.64	2.72	0.92	0.60	6.88
Leg II	1.40	1.36	0.84	0.56	4.16
Leg III	0.88	0.68	0.44	0.32	2.32
Leg IV	1.32	1.12	0.56	0.40	3.40



Figs: 19–22: *Argyrodes caronae*, sp. n., female. **19** Abdomen, lateral view; **20** Epigynum; **21** Vulva, dorsal view; **22** Ditto, ventral view.

Figs: 23–25: *Argyrodes nataliae*, sp. n., male. **23** Cephalothorax, lateral view; **24** Abdomen, lateral view; **25** Left palpus, ventral view.

Female: Unknown.

Material examined: ARGENTINA: Misiones: El Dorado, 1♂ paratype (MACN 9191), November 1970, coll. Galiano.

Argyrodes analiae, sp. n. (Figs. 26–28)

Type: Holotype female (MACN 9195) from Reserva Ducke, Manaus, Amazonas State, Brazil, August 1971, coll. Galiano.

Etymology: This species is named for Lic. Ana Lia Estevez.

Diagnosis: Shape of epigynum (Fig. 27) and shape and length of tubes (Fig. 28), easily distinguishes *A. analiae* from the other species of *Argyrodes*.

Holotype female: Cephalothorax dorsum and venter brown. Ocular area dark brown. Legs brown. Palpus femur light brown, other segments dark brown. Abdomen dorsum light brown with two lateral posterior white spots. Ventrally uniformly light brown. Cephalothorax very elongated, without thoracic groove, widest in median posterior area. AME larger than PME (0.088), separated by more than a diameter (0.1), sub-contiguous with ALE. Posterior eyes in procurved row, PME diameter 0.063, separated from each other and PLE by 0.075. Abdomen elongated, high posteriorly and extended behind spinnerets (Fig. 26). Epigynum: Genital plate irregular, heavily sclerotised, with two lateral openings for ducts (Fig. 27). Spermathecae elongated, with thin, very long ducts, forming numerous rolls surrounding spermathecae; their exact course is difficult to follow (Fig. 28). Measurements: Total length 3.32. Cephalothorax length 1.08, width 0.83. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	2.36	1.92	1.68	0.84	6.80
Leg II	1.75	1.08	0.72	0.60	4.15
Leg III	0.76	0.56	0.48	0.40	2.20
Leg IV	1.76	1.32	0.92	0.68	4.68

Male: Unknown.

Material examined: Only the holotype.

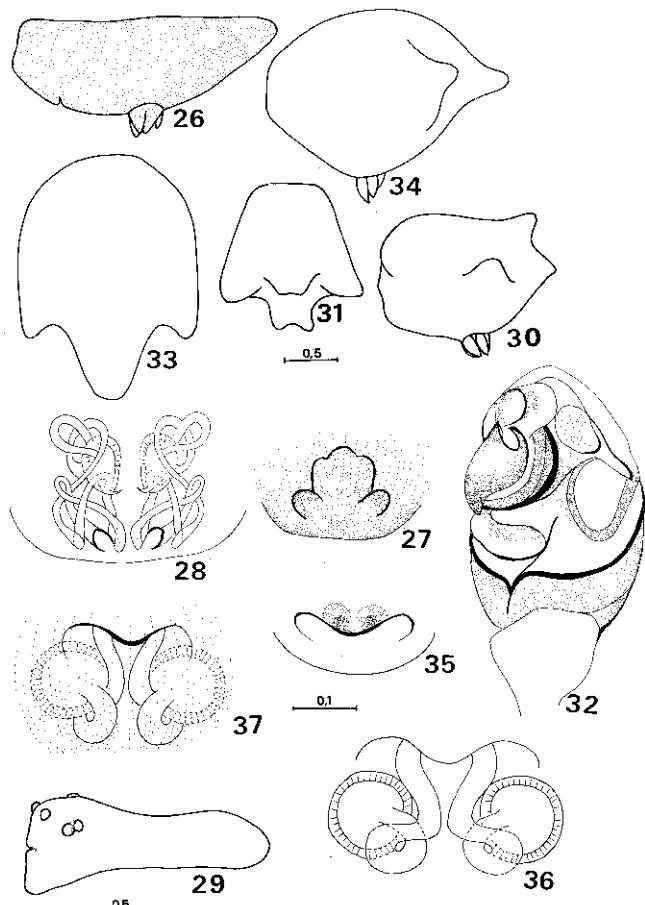
Argyrodes iguazuensis, sp. n. (Figs. 29–32)

Type: Holotype male (MLP 17176) from Cataratas del Iguazu, Misiones, Argentina, March 1988, coll. González.

Etymology: The specific name is a latinised adjective derived from the name of the type locality.

Diagnosis: *A. iguazuensis* is similar to *A. americanus* (Taczanowski) in posterior median hump of abdomen and shape of palpus, but can be distinguished by two large lateral humps on abdomen (Figs. 30, 31) and longer radix on palpus. Male abdomen very similar to *A. darlingtoni* Exline & Levi, but shape of palpus very different (Fig. 32).

Male holotype: Cephalothorax dorsum and ocular area brown, ventrally light brown with border dark brown. AME black. Legs brown, palpus light brown with dark brown tarsus. Abdomen dorsum brown with two dorsal anterior white spots. Ventrally white. Cephalothorax elongated, wide in posterior area, with



Figs. 26–28: *Argyrodes analiae*, sp. n., female. **26** Abdomen, lateral view; **27** Epigynum; **28** Vulva, dorsal view.

Figs. 29–32: *Argyrodes iguazuensis*, sp. n., male. **29** Cephalothorax, lateral view; **30** Abdomen, lateral view; **31** Ditto, dorsal view; **32** Left palpus, ventral view.

Figs. 33–37: *Argyrodes laraensis*, sp. n., female. **33** Abdomen, dorsal view; **34** Ditto, lateral view; **35** Epigynum; **36** Vulva, dorsal view; **37** Ditto, ventral view.

thoracic groove. Clypeus not projecting, high, extending a little over base of chelicerae, cleft without setae (Fig. 29). AME smaller than PME (0.068), separated by more than a diameter (0.075), and widely separated from ALE (0.10). Posterior eyes in a straight row, PME diameter 0.075, separated by more than a diameter, and widely separated from PLE by 0.113. Abdomen globe-shaped, high, with lateral and terminal humps (Figs. 30, 31). Palpus: Fig. 32. Measurements: Total length 2.30. Cephalothorax length 1.08, width 0.75. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	1.84	2.00	1.08	0.72	5.64
Leg II	1.16	1.16	0.64	0.52	3.48
Leg III	0.84	0.60	0.32	0.24	2.00
Leg IV	1.24	0.84	0.44	0.40	2.92

Female: Unknown.

Material examined: Only the holotype.

Argyrodes laraensis, sp. n. (Figs. 33–37)

Type: Holotype female (MLP 17177) from Punta Lara, Buenos Aires, Argentina, February 1982, coll. González.

Etymology: The specific name is a latinised adjective derived from the name of the type locality.

Diagnosis: *A. laraensis* is similar to *A. maculosus* O.P.-Cambridge and *A. affinis* O.P.-Cambridge in shape and length of terminal humps. It can be distinguished from *A. affinis* by the presence of two very large lateral humps (Fig. 34) and from *A. maculosus* by abdominal shape and by internal genitalia with ducts forming spirals near spermathecae (Fig. 36).

Holotype female: Cephalothorax dorsum and ocular area brown, thoracic groove dark brown. Ventrally dark brown. AME black. Legs light brown with brown rings in anterior and terminal zones of segments. Palpus light brown, with dark brown tarsus. Abdomen dorsum silvery with a dark brown longitudinal median line. Ventrally silvery. Cephalothorax elongated. AME smaller than PME (0.062), widely separated (0.113) and subcontiguous with ALE. Posterior eyes in a procurved row, PME diameter 0.075, separated by more than a diameter (0.10), subcontiguous with PLE. Abdomen wide, moderately high, with long terminal hump and two lateral posterior humps (Figs. 33, 34). Epigynum: Genital plate lightly sclerotised (Fig. 35). Spermathecae well separated, with thick short ducts forming spirals near spermathecae (Figs. 36, 37). Measurements: Total length 3.40. Cephalothorax length 1.08, width 0.76. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	2.00	2.16	1.24	0.68	6.08
Leg II	1.20	1.12	0.68	0.48	3.48
Leg III	0.72	0.56	0.40	0.32	2.00
Leg IV	1.32	0.96	0.56	0.48	3.32

Male: Unknown.

Material examined: Only the holotype.

Argyrodes duckensis, sp. n. (Figs. 38–41)

Type: Holotype female (MACN 9193) from Reserva Ducke, Manaus, Amazonas State, Brazil, August 1971, coll. Galiano.

Etymology: The specific name is a latinised adjective derived from the name of the type locality.

Diagnosis: The genital plate (Fig. 39) is similar to that of *A. maculosus*, but can be separated by the spermatheca shape, shorter tubes (Figs. 40, 41) and longer abdomen without posterior humps (Fig. 38).

Holotype female: Cephalothorax dorsum and venter brown. Ocular area brown. Legs light brown with brown rings on terminal areas of segments. Palpus light brown with dark brown tarsus. Abdomen dorsum light brown with uniformly distributed white spots. Ventrally brown with white spots. Cephalothorax elongated, with thoracic groove. AME smaller than PME (0.063), separated by less than a diameter (0.038) and subcontiguous with ALE. Posterior eyes in a slightly procurved row, PME diameter 0.075, very close and separated from PLE by 0.088. Abdomen elongated, extending beyond spinnerets (Fig. 38) with rounded tip. Epigynum: With a blunt, lightly sclerotised scape and with a fossa on each side (Fig. 39). Spermathecae

elongated, very close; ducts short (Figs. 40, 41). Measurements: Total length 4.50. Cephalothorax length 1.50, width 0.90. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	1.13	1.20	0.73	0.43	3.49
Leg II	0.88	1.05	0.65	0.38	2.96
Leg III	0.70	0.60	0.38	0.35	2.03
Leg IV	1.08	1.15	0.70	0.40	3.33

Male: Unknown.

Material examined: Only the holotype.

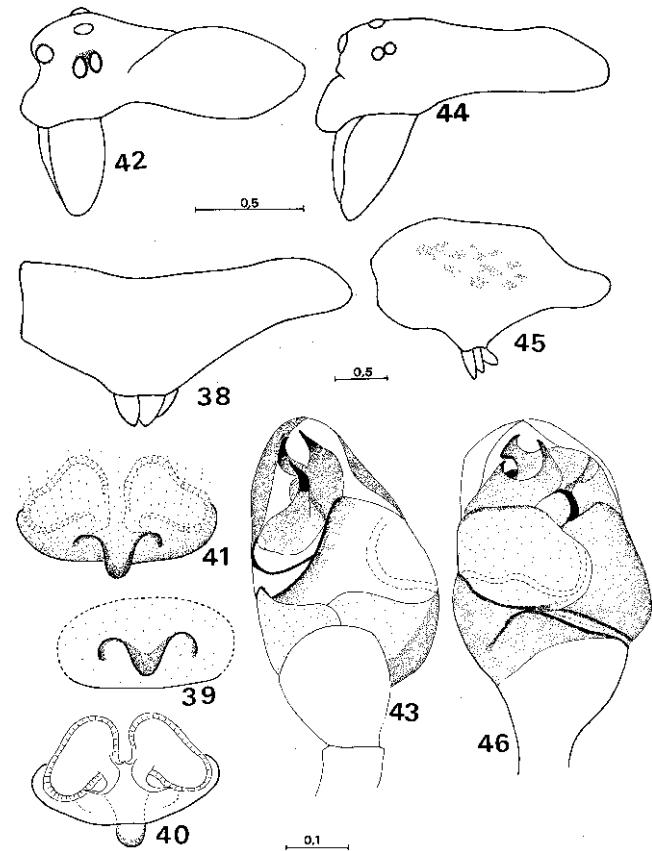
Argyrodes cristinae, sp. n. (Figs. 42–43)

Type: Holotype male (MACN 9196) from Torres, Rio Grande Do Sul, Brazil, June 1981, coll. Goloboff.

Etymology: This species is named for Dra Cristina Scioscia.

Diagnosis: Shape of clypeus and palpus similar to *A. striatus*, but in *A. cristinae* the clypeus lacks setae (Fig. 42) and the radix is wider posteriorly, rounded and with longer tip (Fig. 43).

Holotype male: Cephalothorax dorsum dark brown with black lateral border, ventrally dark brown. Ocular area dark brown. AME black. Legs light brown with



Figs. 38–41: *Argyrodes duckensis*, sp. n., female. **38** Abdomen, lateral view; **39** Epigynum; **40** Vulva, dorsal view; **41** Ditto, ventral view.

Figs. 42–43: *Argyrodes cristinae*, sp. n., male. **42** Cephalothorax, lateral view; **43** Left palpus, ventral view.

Figs. 44–46: *Argyrodes chicanensis*, sp. n., male. **44** Cephalothorax, lateral view; **45** Abdomen, lateral view; **46** Left palpus, ventral view.

metatarsus and tarsus brown. Palpus brown with dark brown tarsus. Abdomen dorsum dark brown with longitudinal median line and terminal area silvery. Lateral areas light brown. Ventrally dark brown. Cephalothorax elongated, with thoracic groove. Clypeus slightly projecting (Fig. 42). Diameter of AME and PME equal (0.088), AME separated by 0.10 and widely separated from ALE (0.1). Posterior eyes in a straight row, PME widely separated (0.163), and 0.075 from PLE. Abdomen elongated. Palpus: Fig. 43. Measurements: Total length 3.25. Cephalothorax length 1.40, width 0.45. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	2.96	3.16	1.76	0.92	8.80
Leg II	1.52	1.56	0.88	0.60	4.56
Leg III	0.88	0.76	0.44	0.32	2.40
Leg IV	1.44	1.16	0.48	0.40	3.48

Male: Unknown.

Material examined: BRAZIL: Rio Grande Do Sul: Torres, 1♂ paratype (MACN 9197), June 1981, coll. Goloboff.

Argyrodes chicaensis, sp. n. (Figs. 44–46)

Type: Holotype male (MACN 9201) from Punta Chica, Buenos Aires, Argentina, January 1944, coll. Prosen.

Etymology: The specific name is a latinised adjective derived from the name of the type locality.

Diagnosis: The bulge on the male clypeus (Fig. 44) distinguishes *A. chicaensis* from related species. The palpus is similar to that of *A. amates* Exline & Levi, but the radix in *A. chicaensis* is thinner, concave on anterior margin with a recurved tip. The embolus ends in a strong hook (Fig. 46). Abdominal shape is different (Fig. 45).

Holotype male: Cephalothorax dorsum brown with dark brown lateral border, ventrally brown. Ocular area brown, AME black. Legs and palpus light brown, palpus with dark brown tarsus. Abdomen dorsum light brown with lateral spots silvery. Ventrally light brown and silvery. Cephalothorax elongated, with thoracic groove. Clypeus projecting and extending over chelicerae (Fig. 44). Diameter of AME and PME equal (0.075), AME separated by less than a diameter (0.063) and 0.125 from ALE. Posterior eyes in a straight row, PME widely separated by 0.10 and separated from PLE by a diameter. Abdomen elongated, slightly raised, with long terminal hump (Fig. 45). Palpus: Fig. 46. Measurements: Total length 3.63. Cephalothorax length 1.25, width 0.83. Legs:

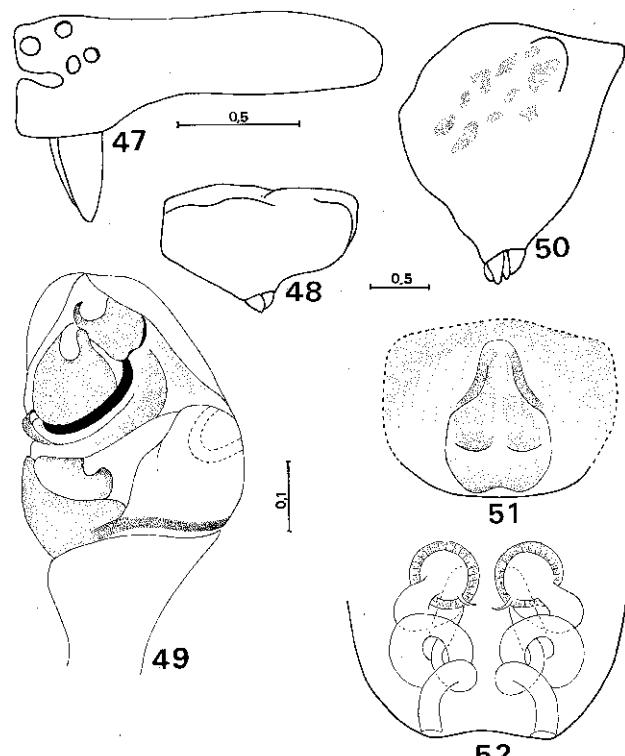
	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	2.84	3.08	1.96	0.88	8.76
Leg II	1.60	1.68	0.96	0.72	4.96
Leg III	0.96	0.76	0.56	0.40	2.68
Leg IV	1.48	1.16	0.72	0.60	3.96

Female: Unknown.

Material examined: Only the holotype.

Argyrodes yutoensis, sp. n. (Figs. 47–49)

Type: Holotype male (MACN 9202) from El Pantanoso, Yuto, Jujuy, Argentina, March 1967, coll. Galiano.



Figs. 47–49: *Argyrodes yutoensis*, sp. n., male. **47** Cephalothorax, lateral view; **48** Abdomen, lateral view; **49** Left palpus, ventral view.

Figs. 50–52: *Argyrodes yacuiensis*, sp. n., female. **50** Abdomen, lateral view; **51** Epigynum; **52** Vulva, dorsal view.

Etymology: The specific name is a latinised adjective derived from the name of the type locality.

Diagnosis: *A. yutoensis* can be distinguished from *A. bryantae* Exline & Levi and *A. dracus* Chamberlin & Ivie by shape of clypeus (Fig. 47) and longer radix with strongly recurved tip (Fig. 49).

Holotype male: Cephalothorax dorsum, venter and ocular area brown. AME black. Legs and palpus brown, palpus with dark brown tarsus. Abdomen dorsum dark brown with silvery area. Laterally and ventrally silvery. Cephalothorax elongated, without thoracic groove. Clypeus low with deep, open groove under eyes (Fig. 47). AME slightly larger than others (diameter 0.10), separated by 0.088, and 0.123 from ALE. Posterior eyes in recurved row, PME diameter 0.075, separated by 0.113, and 0.1 from PLE. Abdomen small, short, with two terminal large blunt humps (Fig. 48). Palpus: Fig. 49. Measurements: Total length 2.96. Cephalothorax length 1.35, width 0.80. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	2.60	3.00	1.20	0.48	7.28
Leg II	1.36	1.60	0.88	0.60	4.44
Leg III	0.92	0.72	0.48	0.40	2.52
Leg IV	1.28	0.92	0.60	0.44	3.24

Female: Unknown.

Material examined: Only the holotype.

***Argyrodes yacuiensis*, sp. n. (Figs. 50–52)**

Type: Holotype female (MLP 17178) from junction of Ruta 101 and Arroyo Jacui, Misiones, Argentina, July 1987, coll. González.

Etymology: The specific name is a latinised adjective derived from the name of the type locality.

Diagnosis: *A. yacuiensis* is one of the smallest *Argyrodes* species and it is easily distinguished by the shape and sclerotisation of the genital plate and shape of ducts (Figs. 51, 52).

Holotype female: Cephalothorax dorsum, venter and ocular area brown. AME black. Legs and palpus light brown, palpus with dark brown tarsus. Abdomen dorsum light brown with lateral silvery areas. Ventrally light brown and silvery. Cephalothorax elongated, with thoracic groove. AME larger than PME (0.075), separated by a diameter, subcontiguous with ALE. Posterior eyes in procurred row, PME diameter 0.063, widely separated by 0.113 and subcontiguous with PLE. Abdomen globe-shaped with lateral and terminal humps (Fig. 50). Epigynum: Genital plate sclerotised (Fig. 51). Spermathecae very close, ducts thick, long, forming spirals (Fig. 52). Measurements: Total length 2.88. Cephalothorax length 1.36, width 0.80. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	1.28	1.40	0.95	0.58	4.21
Leg II	0.80	0.75	0.48	0.40	2.43
Leg III	0.53	0.40	0.23	0.20	1.36
Leg IV	0.83	0.65	0.35	0.30	2.13

Male: Unknown.

Material examined: Only the holotype.

Ariamnes* group**Argyrodes attenuatus* (O.P.-Cambridge)**

Ariamnes attenuatus O.P.-Cambridge, 1881: 770, pl. 66, fig. 3. Male and female syntypes from Amazonas, Brazil, in Hope Department of Entomology, Oxford University.

Argyrodes attenuatus: Exline & Levi, 1962: 130, figs. 118–127.

Distribution: Costa Rica, Panama, Lesser Antilles, St Vincent, Grenada, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Peru, Brazil, Paraguay, Bolivia, Argentina.

New records: Argentina and Brazil.

Material examined: ARGENTINA: Salta: Aguas Blancas, 1♀ (MACN 9180), March 1967 (coll. Galiano). Misiones: General Belgrano, 2♀ (MACN 9174), July 1972 (coll. Galiano); Cataratas del Iguazu, 2♂ 4♀ (MACN 9175), 5 November 1963; 1♂ 4♀ (MACN 9176), January 1966; 1♀ (MACN 9177), November 1970 (coll. Galiano); A. Jacui, Iguazu National Park, 3♂ 3♀ (MACN 9178), November 1970 (coll. Galiano); Puerto Canoas, 1♀ (MLP 17167), March 1988 (coll. González); Santa María, 1♂ (MACN 9179), November 1954 (coll. Schiapelli-De Carlo). BRAZIL: Pará: Belem, 1♂ (MACN 9172), August 1971 (coll. Galiano). Amazonas: Manaus, Ponta Negra, 1♀ (MACN 9173), August 1971 (coll. Galiano).

Rhomphaea* group**Argyrodes projiciens* (O.P.-Cambridge)**

Rhomphaea projiciens O.P.-Cambridge, 1896: 186, pl. 23, figs. 9–10. Male and female syntypes from Teapa, Tabasco, Mexico, in British Museum (Natural History).

Rhomphaea martinae Exline, 1950: 116, figs. 5, 7, 8, 14, 16. Male holotype from Chira River Valley, Piura, Peru (MCZ), examined.

Argyrodes projiciens: Exline & Levi, 1962: 106, figs. 8–10.

Distribution: USA, Mexico, Guatemala, Panama, Ecuador, Brazil, Paraguay.

New records: Argentina.

Material examined: ARGENTINA: Misiones: Cataratas del Iguazu, 1♀ (MACN 9181), September 1963 (coll. Galiano); 1♀ (MLP 17168), March 1988 (coll. González); junction Ruta 101 and A. Jacui, 2♂ (MLP 17169), July 1987 (coll. González). Buenos Aires: Punta Lara, 1♂ (MACN 9182), November 1985 (coll. Galiano-Scioscia).

***Argyrodes fictilium* (Hentz)**

Theridion fictilium Hentz, 1850: 282, pl. 10, fig. 4. Female holotype from Alabama, lost.

Argyrodes fictilium: Emerton, 1882: 24, figs. 2, 2a. Exline & Levi, 1962: 103, figs. 6, 7, 26–28.

Rhomphaea remota Bryant, 1940: 308, fig. 74. Male holotype from Trinidad Mts., Cuba (MCZ), examined.

Distribution: Southern Canada, USA, Mexico, Panama, Cuba, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Paraguay.

New records: Argentina.

Material examined: ARGENTINA: Misiones: A. Jacui, Iguazu National Park, 1♀ (MACN 9186), December 1972; 1♀ (MACN 9184), January 1966 (coll. Galiano); Piñalito, 1♀ (MACN 9185), January 1966 (coll. Galiano).

***Argyrodes procerus* (O.P.-Cambridge)**

Ariamnes procerus O.P.-Cambridge, 1898: 257, pl. 38, fig. 5. Female holotype from Bugaba, Panama, in British Museum (Natural History).

Argyrodes procerus: Exline & Levi, 1962: 108, figs. 11–13, 32–34.

Distribution: Costa Rica, Panama, Venezuela.

New records: Argentina.

Material examined: ARGENTINA: Misiones: Cataratas del Iguazu, 1♂ (MACN 9186), January 1966 (coll. Galiano); Manuel Belgrano, 1♀ (MACN 9187), January 1966 (coll. Galiano).

***Argyrodes palmarensis*, sp. n. (Figs. 53–55)**

Type: Holotype female (MACN 9198) from El Palmar National Park, Entre Ríos, Argentina, 28 March 1986, coll. Ramirez.

Etymology: The specific name is a latinised adjective derived from the name of the type locality.

Diagnosis: *A. palmarensis* is one of the larger species of *Argyrodes*. The spermathecae and ducts (Fig. 55) are similar to those of *A. procerus*, but different in shape; it also differs in terminal shape of abdomen (Fig. 53) and sclerotisation of genital plate (Fig. 54).

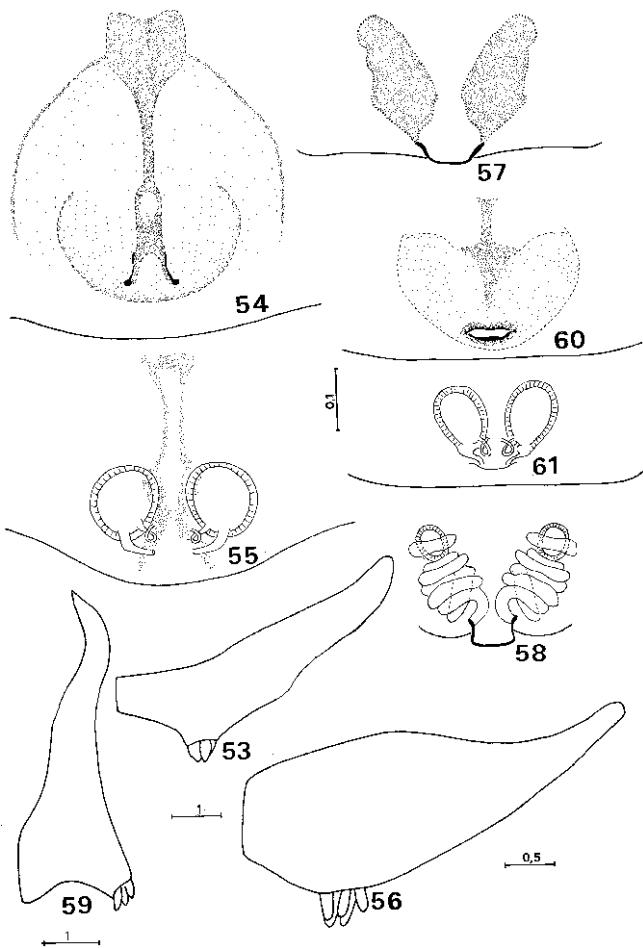
Holotype female: Cephalothorax dorsum light brown with lateral area brown. Ocular area light brown, AME black. Legs light brown with brown rings on proximal

and distal areas of segments. Palpus light brown. Abdomen dorsum brown with silvery spots. Ventrally brown with a longitudinal dark brown line. Cephalothorax elongated, without thoracic groove. Diameter AME and PME equal (0.10), AME separated by a diameter and subcontiguous with ALE. Posterior eyes in a procurved row, PME well separated (0.15) and subcontiguous with PLE. Abdomen elongated and high, and extended behind spinnerets (Fig. 53). Epigynum: Genital plate strongly sclerotised (Fig. 54). Spermathecae spherical, separated by a radius, ducts short and simple with two separated openings (Fig. 55). Measurements: Total length 6.71. Cephalothorax length 1.60, width 1.00. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	7.33	6.24	3.59	1.64	18.8
Leg II	3.82	3.12	2.57	0.86	10.37
Leg III	2.19	2.34	1.09	0.62	6.24
Leg IV	5.77	3.36	3.28	1.48	13.89

Male: Unknown.

Material examined: ARGENTINA: Entre Ríos: Concepcion del Uruguay, 1♀ paratype (MACN 9199),



Figs. 53–55: *Argyrodes palmarensis*, sp. n., female. **53** Abdomen, lateral view; **54** Epigynum; **55** Vulva, dorsal view.

Figs. 56–58: *Argyrodes velhaensis*, sp. n., female. **56** Abdomen, lateral view; **57** Epigynum; **58** Vulva, dorsal view.

Figs. 59–61: *Argyrodes oris*, sp. n., female. **59** Abdomen, lateral view; **60** Epigynum; **61** Vulva, dorsal view.

March 1981 (coll. Zanetic-Goloboff); junction Ruta 14 and Arroyo Gualeyan, 1♀ paratype (MACN 9200), November 1982 (coll. Goloboff).

Argyrodes velhaensis, sp. n. (Figs. 56–58)

Type: Holotype female (MACN 9203) from Fazenda Velha, Pará, Brazil, August 1970, coll. Galiano.

Etymology: The specific name is a latinised adjective derived from the name of the type locality.

Diagnosis: Uniformly light brown. Coils and length of ducts are diagnostic (Fig. 58). Legs extremely long. Abdominal shape is similar to *A. fictilium*, but in *A. velhaensis* the terminal area is blunt (Fig. 56); internal genitalia are different.

Holotype female: Cephalothorax dorsum, venter and ocular area light brown. AME black. Legs and palpus light brown. Abdomen dorsum and venter light brown. Cephalothorax wide in median posterior area, with thoracic groove. AME smaller than PME (0.063), separated by 0.088 and subcontiguous with ALE. Posterior eyes in procurved row, PME diameter 0.075, widely separated by 0.113 and subcontiguous with PLE. Abdomen very long, extended behind spinnerets, curved posteriorly (Fig. 56). Epigynum: Spermathecae widely separated, small, with long ducts forming numerous coils following inclined axis (Figs. 57, 58). Measurements: Total length 4.60. Cephalothorax length 1.18, width 1.05. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	4.90	4.55	4.35	1.40	15.20
Leg II	3.20	2.60	2.40	1.05	9.25
Leg III	1.70	1.10	0.95	0.70	4.45
Leg IV	3.05	2.50	2.15	0.95	8.65

Male: Unknown.

Material examined: Only the holotype.

Argyrodes oris, sp. n. (Figs. 59–61)

Type: Holotype female (MACN 9204) from Cataratas del Iguazu, Misiones, Argentina, January 1966, coll. Galiano.

Etymology: The opening of the epigynum is shaped like a mouth.

Diagnosis: *A. oris* is similar to *A. projiciens*, but can be distinguished by total length, taller abdomen (Fig. 59) and different colour, shape of the ducts (Fig. 61) and opening of epigynum (Fig. 60).

Holotype female: Cephalothorax dorsum light brown with lateral border brown. Ventrally brown. Ocular area dark brown. AME black. Legs light brown with lateral longitudinal brown lines. Palpus light brown. Abdomen dorsum and venter silvery with few light brown areas. Cephalothorax elongated, without thoracic groove. AME larger than other eyes, diameter 0.10, separated by 0.088 and subcontiguous with ALE. Posterior eyes in procurved row, PME diameter 0.075, widely separated by 0.125, and subcontiguous with PLE. Abdomen very high, extended almost vertically in front of spinnerets (Fig. 59). Epigynum: Opening shaped like a mouth, with well

sclerotised margins (Fig. 60). Spermathecae separated by nearly a radius (Fig. 61). Measurements: Total length 7.10. Cephalothorax length 1.30, width 0.75. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	4.95	2.95	2.75	1.00	11.65
Leg II	3.40	2.80	2.05	0.90	9.15
Leg III	1.95	1.30	1.00	0.60	4.85
Leg IV	4.80	2.60	2.50	0.95	10.85

Male: Unknown.

Material examined: ARGENTINA: Misiones: Cataratas del Iguazu, 2♀ paratypes (MACN 9205); 1♀ paratype (MLP 17179), January 1966 (coll. Galiano).

Argyrodes conus, sp. n. (Figs. 62–64)

Type: Holotype female (MLP 17180) from junction of Ruta 101 and Arroyo Jacui, Misiones, Argentina, July 1987, coll. González.

Etymology: Epigynum cone shaped.

Diagnosis: *A. conus* can be distinguished from *A. procerus* by terminal area of abdomen lacking a small membranous spine at tip (Fig. 62) and by genital plate with one wide opening at end of cone (Fig. 63).

Holotype female: Cephalothorax dorsum, venter and ocular area light brown. AME black. Legs light brown with brown rings in medial and terminal areas of segments. Palpus light brown. Abdomen dorsum light brown, with posterior and lateral areas dark brown. Ventrally light brown and silvery. Cephalothorax elongated, without thoracic groove. AME and PME equal (0.088), AME separated by more than a diameter (0.113) and subcontiguous with ALE. Posterior eyes in procurved row. PME widely separated by 0.125, and subcontiguous with PLE. Abdomen high, short and extended behind spinnerets, with blunt terminal area (Fig. 62). Epigynum: Wide opening at end of cone, heavily sclerotised (Fig. 63). Spermathecae spherical, very close, ducts short (Fig. 64). Measurements: Total length 4.06. Cephalothorax length 1.28, width 0.84. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	5.10	4.20	2.60	1.05	12.95
Leg II	2.70	2.30	1.50	0.85	7.35
Leg III	1.55	1.15	0.75	0.50	3.95
Leg IV	3.75	2.70	1.40	0.70	8.55

Male: Unknown.

Material examined: Only the holotype.

Argyrodes pignalitoensis, sp. n. (Figs. 65–67)

Type: Holotype female (MACN 9206) from Piñalito, Misiones, Argentina, January, coll. Galiano.

Etymology: The specific name is a latinised adjective derived from the name of the type locality.

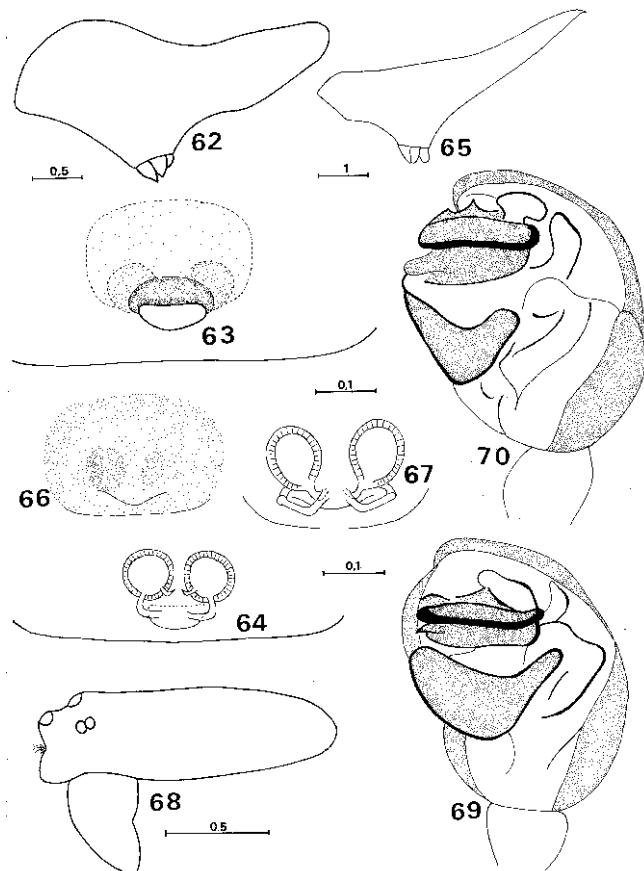
Diagnosis: *A. pignalitoensis* is similar to *A. honestus* Exline & Levi, but can be distinguished by more vertical abdomen (Fig. 65), different internal genitalia, ducts more separated and forming a straight transverse line (Fig. 67), fossa wider (Fig. 66).

Holotype female: Cephalothorax dorsum and ocular area light brown, ventrally brown. AME black. Legs and palpus light brown. Abdomen dorsum light brown with silvery areas, laterally silvery and ventrally light brown. Cephalothorax as wide as long, with thoracic groove. AME and PME equal (0.088), AME separated by 0.113. Posterior eyes in procurved row, PME widely separated by 0.125. AME and PME subcontiguous with LE. Abdomen very slender, very prolonged behind and above spinnerets terminating in a point (Fig. 65). Epigynum: Fossa longer than wide (Fig. 66) with two tube openings. Spermathecae spherical, separated by about a radius. Tubes narrow, short, sclerotised (Fig. 67). Measurements: Total length 5.76. Cephalothorax length 1.10, width 0.90. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	5.94	5.22	3.06	1.26	15.48
Leg II	3.30	2.64	2.16	0.84	8.94
Leg III	2.10	1.26	0.96	0.60	4.92
Leg IV	4.62	2.70	2.70	0.84	10.86

Male: Unknown.

Material examined: Only the holotype.



Figs. 62–64: *Argyrodes conus*, sp. n., female. **62** Abdomen, lateral view; **63** Epigynum; **64** Vulva, dorsal view.

Figs. 65–67: *Argyrodes pignalitoensis*, sp. n., female. **65** Abdomen, lateral view; **66** Epigynum; **67** Vulva, dorsal view.

Figs. 68–70: *Argyrodes vadoensis*, sp. n., male. **68** Cephalothorax, lateral view; **69** Left palpus, ventral view; **70** Ditto, lateral view.

A. trigonum group

Argyrodes rioensis Exline & Levi

Argyrodes rioensis Exline & Levi, 1962: 125, figs. 61–65. Male holotype from Teresópolis, 1000 m elev., Est. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in American Museum of Natural History.

Distribution: Brazil.

New record: Argentina.

Material examined: ARGENTINA: Misiones: General Belgrano, 1♂ (MACN 9188), 1965, coll. Galiano.

A. cordillera group

Argyrodes vadoensis, sp. n. (Figs. 68–70)

Type: Holotype male (MACN 9192) from Vado Hondo, Oran, Salta, Argentina, March 1967, coll. Galiano.

Etymology: The specific name is a latinised adjective derived from the name of the type locality.

Diagnosis: The male can be separated from other *Argyrodes* by the shape of the palpus; shape and width of embolus, conductor and radix are diagnostic (Figs. 69, 70).

Holotype male: Cephalothorax dorsum and venter dark brown. Ocular area brown. Legs and palpus brown, palpus with dark brown tarsus. Abdomen dorsum and venter dark brown. Cephalothorax elongated, without thoracic groove. Clypeus not projecting, cleft with setae (Fig. 68). AME smaller than PME (0.05), very close (0.025) and widely separated from ALE by 0.125. Posterior eyes in a straight row, PME diameter 0.075, separated by 0.138 and 0.088 from PLE. Abdomen elongated with posterior hump. Palpus: Figs. 69, 70. Measurements: Total length 3.04. Cephalothorax length 1.20, width 0.78. Legs:

	Fe	Pa+Ti	Mt	Ta	Total
Leg I	1.56	1.60	1.32	1.00	5.48
Leg II	1.40	1.40	1.24	0.68	4.72
Leg III	1.04	1.00	0.88	0.52	3.44
Leg IV	1.48	1.52	1.44	0.64	5.08

Female: Unknown.

Material examined: Only the holotype.

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to Prof. María Elena Galiano for loaning the material and reading the manuscript, and Dr Herbert Levi for hospitality and help during the stay of one of us (Alda González) in Cambridge, USA. This is contribution no. 217 CEPAVE.

References

- BANKS, N. 1908: New species of Theridiidae. *Can. Ent.* **41**: 205–208.
 BRYANT, E. B. 1940: Cuban spiders in the Museum of Comparative Zoology. *Bull. Mus. comp. Zool. Harv.* **86**: 247–554.
 CAMBRIDGE, O. P.- 1880: On some new and little known spiders of the genus *Argyrodes*. *Proc. zool. Soc. Lond.* **1880**: 320–342.
 CAMBRIDGE, O. P.- 1881: On some new genera and species of Araneidae. *Proc. zool. Soc. Lond.* **1881**: 765–775.
 CAMBRIDGE, O. P.- 1896: Arachnida. Araneida. *Biología cent.-am. (Zool.)* **1**: 161–224.
 CAMBRIDGE, O. P.- 1898: Arachnida. Araneida. *Biología cent.-am. (Zool.)* **1**: 233–288.
 CHAMBERLIN, R. V. 1924: Descriptions of new American and Chinese spiders, with notes on other Chinese species. *Proc. U.S. natn. Mus.* **63**: 1–38.
 EMERTON, J. H. 1882: New England spiders of the family Theridiidae. *Trans. Conn. Acad. Arts Sci.* **6**: 1–86.
 EXLINE, H. 1950: Conopisthine spiders (Theridiidae) from Peru and Ecuador. In *Studies honoring Trevor Kincaid*: 108–124. Univ. Washington Press.
 EXLINE, H. & LEVI, H. W. 1962: American spiders of the genus *Argyrodes* (Araneae, Theridiidae). *Bull. Mus. comp. Zool. Harv.* **127**: 75–204.
 HENTZ, N. M. 1850: Descriptions and figures of the Araneides of the United States. *Boston J. nat. Hist.* **6**: 271–295.
 KEYSERLING, E. 1884: *Die Spinnen Amerikas. Theridiidae* **2**(1): 1–222. Nürnberg.
 KEYSERLING, E. 1891: *Die Spinnen Amerikas. Brasilianische Spinnen* **3**: 1–278. Nürnberg.
 LEVI, H. W. 1967: Habitat observations, records, and new South American theridiid spiders (Araneae, Theridiidae). *Bull. Mus. comp. Zool. Harv.* **136**: 21–37.
 MELLO-LEITÃO, C. F. de 1941: Las arañas de Córdoba. La Rioja, Catamarca, Tucumán, Salta y Jujuy. *Revta Mus. La Plata (N.S., Zool.)* **2**: 99–198.
 TACZANOWSKI, L. 1873a: Les aranéides de la Guyane française. *Trudy russk. ent. Obshch. (=Horae Soc. ent. Ross.)* **9**: 64–150.
 TACZANOWSKI, L. 1873b: Les aranéides de la Guyane française. *Trudy russk. ent. Obshch. (=Horae Soc. ent. Ross.)* **10**: 56–115.