

The identity of *Oligacanthophrynus guianensis* di Caporiacco, 1947 (Arachnida: Amblypygi: Charinidae)

Peter Weygoldt

Institut für Biologie I (Zoologie),
Hauptstrasse 1, D-79104 Freiburg, Germany

Summary

The holotype and only specimen of *Oligacanthophrynus guianensis* di Caporiacco, 1947 is a protonymph of a *Charinus* species. The characters are not sufficient for specific identification or to describe a new species, but they clearly show that *Oligacanthophrynus* di Caporiacco has to be considered a junior synonym of *Charinus* Simon, 1892.

Introduction

In 1947, di Caporiacco introduced the new generic name *Oligacanthophrynus* for a whip spider from Guyana, then British Guiana, and in 1948 he described the type species, *O. guianensis* [Campo di Marlissa (Berbice), XII, 31] (cited from the label). During studies on the systematics of the Amblypygi, S. Whitman of the Museo Zoologico de "La Specola", Università di Firenze (MZUF) drew my attention to this description and specimen and allowed me to study the type and only specimen (MZUF 177).

Description of holotype

Total length 3.4 mm. Carapace length 1.4 mm, width 1.8 mm; smooth, anterior margin rounded with six pointed anterior setae, 5 of which are lost; eyes relatively large, epistome triangular, anteriorly rounded, not visible from above. Chelicera with typical charinid dentition. Pedipalp: trochanter with one anterior spine and with ventral apophysis typical for Charinidae; femur with two dorsal and two ventral spines; tibia dorsally with three large spines, spine 1 (distal) the largest, spine 3 the smallest, spine 1 followed distally by a spinelet carrying a seta; tibia ventrally with two spines; basitarsus dorsally with two spines, the proximal one about half the length of the distal, ventrally with one spine; distitarsus divided into a proximal part and terminal claw, proximal part with two spines, the proximal of these small like a tubercle. Fourth leg tibia (only one detached tibia IV is present) divided into four basitibial articles and the distitibia. Trichobothria **bt**, **bf**, and **bc** are doubled. Genitalia not developed. Ventral sac covers missing. Colour in alcohol: sclerotised parts light yellowish to light brown, faded, other parts nearly white.

Discussion

The size, the faded coloration and, in particular, the fact that the basal trichobothria are doubled, clearly indicate that the specimen is a protonymph. The form and size of the carapace and pedipalp are nearly

identical to figs. 8a and 8b of Weygoldt (1972) showing *Charinus brasiliensis* Weygoldt, 1972. Regarding the articulation of the walking leg tibiae, di Caporiacco writes "Tibia III paris triarticulata". Both tibiae III are present; they are divided into basitibia and distitibia. The only (detached) tibia IV clearly shows four basitibial articles; it is, even including its trichobothria, similar to fig. 8c of Weygoldt (1972). These characters clearly indicate that the specimen is a protonymph of a species of *Charinus* Simon, 1892. However, they are insufficient to permit the assignment of this specimen to a certain species. Charinid genera to be expected in the Guianas are *Charinus*, *Charinides* Gravely, 1911 (Quintero, 1983; Delle Cave, 1986) and *Tricharinus* Quintero, 1986. *Charinus gertschi* Goodnight & Goodnight, 1964 has been described from Guyana and Surinam, and two species of *Charinides* are known from Venezuela (Ravelo, 1975, 1977). Since the tibia IV articulation clearly shows that the specimen is a member of the genus *Charinus*, we may assume that it is a protonymph of *Charinus gertschi*.

Conclusion

The genus *Oligacanthophrynus* di Caporiacco, 1947 is a junior synonym of *Charinus* Simon, 1892.

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