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***Clubiona pseudoneglecta* Wunderlich, 1994, a clubionid spider new to Britain (Araneae: Clubionidae)**

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Summary

The clubionid spider *Clubiona pseudoneglecta* Wunderlich, 1994 is described and illustrated as new to Britain. Comparative drawings of *C. neglecta* O. P.-Cambridge, 1862 are also provided.

Introduction

While checking records of spiders found in the Channel Islands for the revised check list of British spiders (Merrett & Murphy, 2000), I asked the collector if I could see a specimen of *Clubiona similis* L. Koch, which had been recorded from Jersey by Williams (1980), expecting that it would probably be *C. frisia* Wunderlich & Schütt, 1995. In fact the specimen, a female collected at St. Ouen's Pond on 15 June 1979, proved to be *C. pseudoneglecta* Wunderlich, 1994. Five further females from the same locality, collected on 12 September 1979 and recorded by Williams (1980) as *C. neglecta* O. P.-Cambridge, were also found to be *C. pseudoneglecta* (S. A. Williams, pers. comm.). I therefore decided to check specimens in my own collection which had been identified as *C. neglecta*, and found that I had four females of *C. pseudoneglecta* which had been collected on Tresco, Isles of Scilly, in July 1959. All my specimens from mainland Britain proved to be *C. neglecta*. Subsequently, John Murphy checked the specimens of "neglecta" in his collection, and found that all his British material was *neglecta* but that he had two females of *pseudoneglecta* from southern France and one male from northern Greece. Both sexes of *C. pseudoneglecta* have also been found among material from Sandwich, Kent, collected in 1975 and misidentified as *C. neglecta* (S. A. Williams, pers. comm.).

The species is described here as new to Britain, based mainly on the females from Scilly and on the male from Greece, which was virtually identical with the British male. Comparative drawings of *C. neglecta* are

provided from specimens from southern England. All measurements are in mm.

Description

***Clubiona pseudoneglecta* Wunderlich, 1994** (Figs. 1–3, 7–9)

Clubiona pseudoneglecta Wunderlich, 1994: 157, figs. 1–3 (descr. ♀); Roberts, 1998: 135, figs. (♀♂).

Material examined: GREAT BRITAIN: Isles of Scilly, Tresco, 4♀, July 1959, leg. & coll. P. Merrett; Kent, Sandwich, on sand at roots of grass, 2♀ 1♂, 24 June 1975, leg. & coll. S. A. Williams; Jersey, St. Ouen's Pond, 1♀, 15 June 1979 (sub *C. similis*), 5♀, 12 September 1979 (sub *C. neglecta*), leg. & coll. S. A. Williams. FRANCE: Lot-et-Garonne, Boudy, 150 m, scrub, oak woods, 2♀, 7 August 1985, leg. & coll. J. & F. Murphy 13161. GREECE: Halkidiki, Gerakina, reed beds and grubbing near hotel, 1♂, 19 April 1978, leg. & coll. J. & F. Murphy 3481.

Comparative material: *C. neglecta*: GREAT BRITAIN: Devon, Slapton, 1♀, 1974, coll. P. Merrett; Dorset, Durlston, limestone grassland, 1♂, June 1974, leg. & coll. P. Merrett; Cornwall, St. Just, 1♂, May 1961, leg. & coll. P. Merrett; Surrey, Warlingham, chalk grassland, 1♂, 23 June 1958, leg. & coll. P. Merrett.

Female: Total length 5.3–6.8. Carapace length 2.1–2.8, width 1.5–2.0. General appearance, coloration, and leg spination similar to *C. neglecta*. Chelicera length 0.9–1.35, ratio chelicera length/carapace length 0.43–0.5. Patella+tibia I length 1.75–2.6, ratio patella+tibia I length/carapace length 0.8–1.0. Epigyne and vulva (Figs. 1–2): close to *C. neglecta*, for differences see Diagnosis.

Male: Total length 5.3–5.5. Carapace length 2.4–2.5, width 1.7. General appearance, coloration, and leg spination similar to *C. neglecta*. Chelicera (Fig. 3): length 1.65–1.7, robust, with long fang, ratio chelicera length/carapace length 0.68–0.69. Legs long, patella+tibia I length 2.65–2.8, ratio patella+tibia I length/carapace length 1.10–1.12. Palp (Figs. 7–9): close to *C. neglecta*, for differences see Diagnosis. The palp of the Greek specimen was virtually identical to that from Sandwich.

Diagnosis: The structure of the epigyne and vulva is similar to that of *C. neglecta*, but there are a number of

clear differences (Figs. 1–2 cf. Figs. 4–5): (a) the anterior primary seminal receptacles are smaller in *pseudoneglecta*; (b) in *neglecta* the posterior secondary receptacles appear circular in ventral view, large, symmetrical, and closely packed between the broad lateral ducts, whereas in *pseudoneglecta* they are thinner and longer, less closely packed and variable in position; in ventral view they may appear sausage-shaped or circular, depending on whether they are viewed end-on, but if circular they are smaller than in *neglecta* and usually asymmetrical; the secondary receptacles are sometimes thinner than shown in Figs. 1–2 and, in one specimen, one of these receptacles was even directed anteriorly between the primary receptacles; (c) in *pseudoneglecta* the lateral copulatory ducts are thinner and are more strongly curved anteriorly towards the midline; (d) in *pseudoneglecta* the posterior opening of the epigyne is broader than in *neglecta* and the outer edge of the duct reaches the epigastric furrow, whereas in *neglecta* it ends just anterior to the furrow.

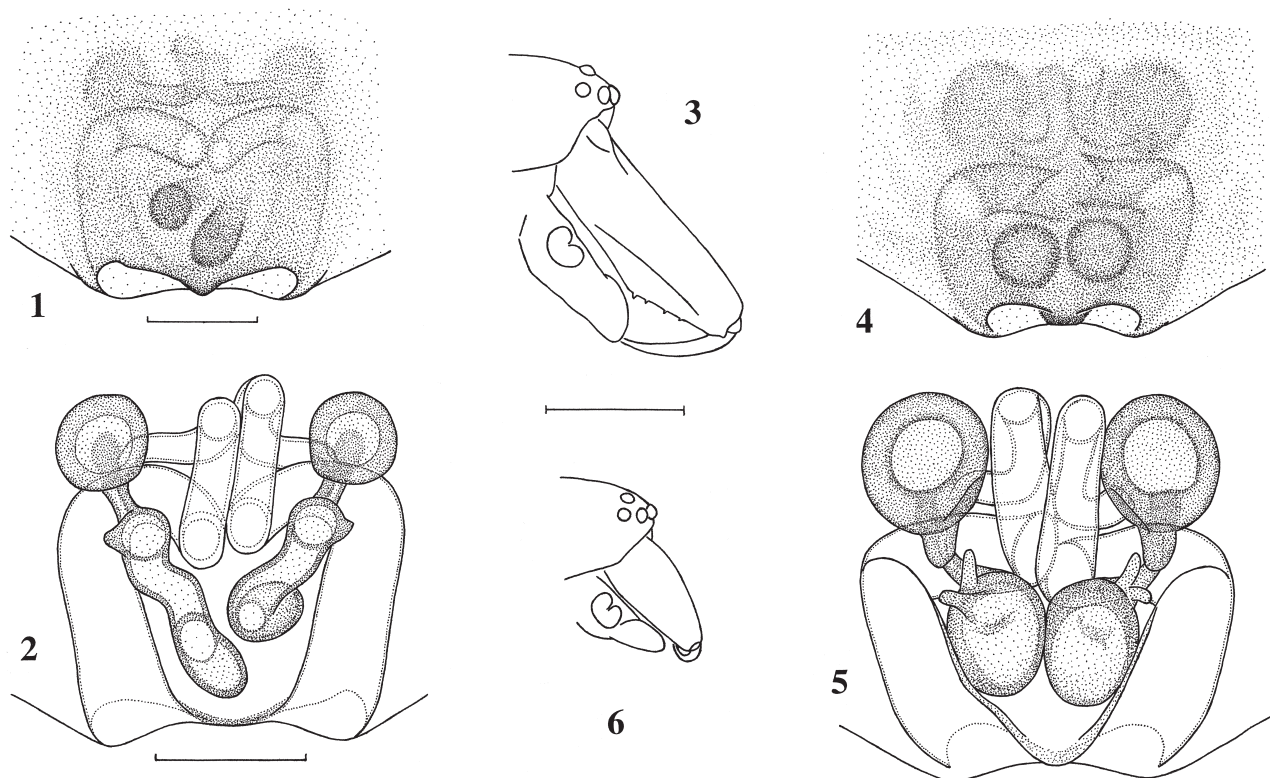
The male palp is also similar to that of *C. neglecta*, but there are small differences (Figs. 7–9 cf. Figs. 10–12): (a) in *pseudoneglecta* the embolus is shorter and less strongly curved distally; (b) in *pseudoneglecta* the distal unsclerotised part of the tegulum is much broader and its distal margin more pointed; (c) in *pseudoneglecta* the loop of the duct in the tegulum does not extend as far dorsally when seen in lateral view; (d) in *pseudoneglecta* the distal end of the cymbium extends further beyond the distal end of the broad loop of the embolus, and the proximal end of the tegulum extends further beyond the proximal loop of the embolus; (e) the tibia of

pseudoneglecta is relatively longer and the tibial apophyses slightly different in shape; the ventral apophysis is somewhat variable but usually thicker and with more of a knob distally in *pseudoneglecta*, and the dorsal apophysis of *neglecta* is more sharply angled.

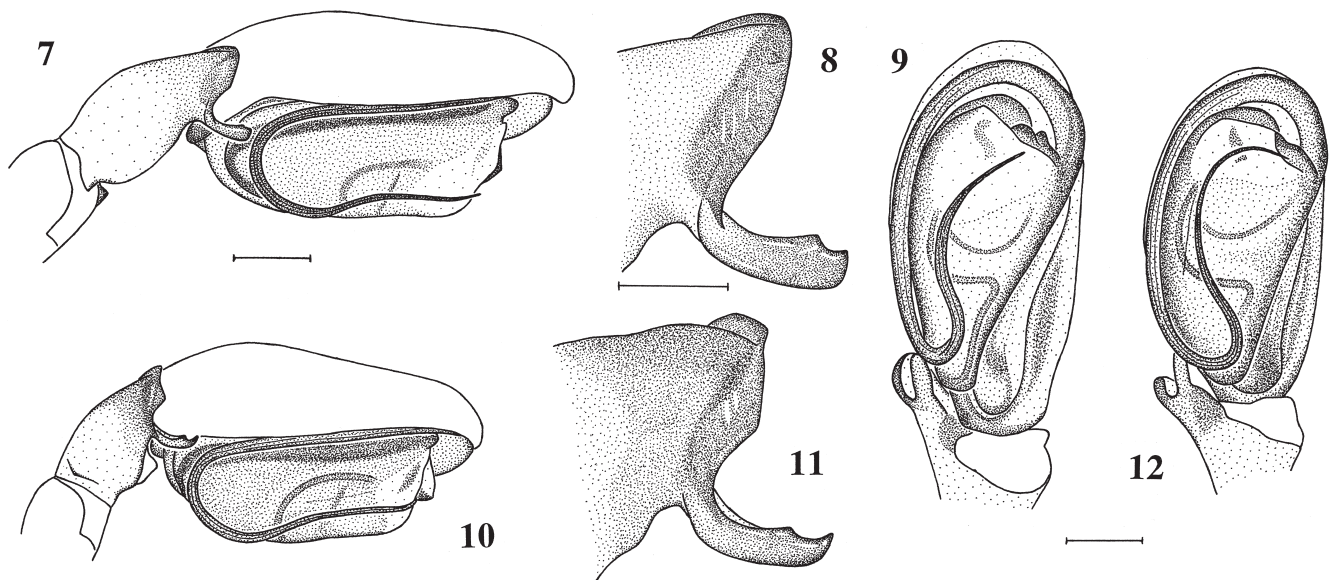
However, the most obvious difference in the male is the much longer chelicerae of *pseudoneglecta* (Fig. 3 cf. Fig. 6). The ratio cheliceral length/carapace length is about 0.68–0.69 in male *pseudoneglecta*, but only 0.38–0.41 in *neglecta*. In females the chelicerae of *pseudoneglecta* tend to be slightly longer than in *neglecta* (ratio 0.43–0.5 vs. 0.43), but this is not diagnostic. The legs of male *pseudoneglecta* also tend to be slightly longer than in males of *neglecta* (ratio patella+tibia I length/carapace length 1.10–1.12 vs. 1.0 in *neglecta*), but this also may not be consistent. The legs of females are slightly shorter than in males and not significantly different between the species.

Habitat and distribution

As *C. pseudoneglecta* has only recently been distinguished from *C. neglecta*, the differences in their habitats and distribution remain unclear. The precise habitat in Scilly is unknown, but it is likely to have been either coastal grassland or dunes. Bristowe (1929) recorded “*neglecta*” from coastal grassland on Tresco, which might have been near where I collected my specimens. The specimens from Sandwich were collected on sand dunes, and those from Jersey also came from a coastal area. The species is stated to occur on dunes in Belgium and the Netherlands (Roberts, 1998), so it



Figs. 1–6: **1–3** *Clubiona pseudoneglecta*. **1** Epigyne (Scilly); **2** Vulva, dorsal (Scilly); **3** Male chelicera and maxilla, ectal (Greece). **4–6** *Clubiona neglecta*. **4** Epigyne (Slapton); **5** Vulva, dorsal (Slapton); **6** Male chelicera and maxilla, ectal (Durlston). Scale lines=0.2 mm (1–2, 4–5), 1.0 mm (3, 6).



Figs. 7–12: **7–9** *Clubiona pseudoneglecta*, male (Greece). **7** Right palp, ectal; **8** Tibial apophyses, ectal; **9** Right palp, ventral. **10–12** *Clubiona neglecta*, male (Durlston). **10** Right palp, ectal; **11** Tibial apophyses, ectal; **12** Right palp, ventral. Scale lines=0.2 mm (7, 9, 10, 12), 0.1 mm (8, 11).

might be expected to be a southern coastal species in Britain.

However, the type locality was a dry, warm habitat in SW Germany, and the specimens from S. France came from a lightly wooded area. According to Mikhailov & Szinetár (1997) all records of “*neglecta*” from Hungary that have been checked are *pseudoneglecta*, and are widely scattered across the country. Its occurrence in Greece also suggests that it may be more widespread in southern Europe.

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Note added in proof

After this paper had gone to press, it came to my notice that both sexes of *C. pseudoneglecta* were also described and figured by Pozzi & Hänggi (1998) from Switzerland. The species was collected in numerous dry grassland localities subject to a wide variety of management regimes.

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