Bull. Br. arachnol. Soc. (1993) 9 (4), 123–125

Description of *Mburuvicha galianoae*, new genus and species (Araneae, Salticidae)

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Summary

Mburuvicha galianoae new genus and species is described from Argentina. The genus belongs in the subfamily Dendryphantinae, sharing the main features of the group.

Introduction

Simon (1901) divided the Salticidae into 73 groups of genera clustered in three sections based on the dentition of the retromargin of the chelicerae. Since then, several attempts have been made to classify the family into subfamilies but they have had no general acceptance. The confusion in salticid systematics probably came about because of the large number of representatives (more than 4,000 known species), the poor definition of the genera and the lack of usable descriptions and drawings of most species.

Dendryphanteae (*sensu* Simon) was considered a subfamily by Petrunkevitch (1928) and comprises genera whose species are defined by a conspicuous conical tooth on retromargin of chelicerae; tibia + patella III shorter than tibia + patella IV; posterior median eyes nearer anterior row than posterior row; ocular quadrangle wider behind than in front; posterior legs with few spines, their metatarsi bearing only 4–6 apical spines; thoracic region of carapace longer than cephalic region, with thoracic groove behind posterior lateral eyes; males usually with a band of scales on either side of carapace and abdomen. There are different criteria about which genera are referred to the subfamily (Maddison, 1988; Prószyński, 1976). Maddison (1988) wrote: "The limits and interrelationships within the subfamily Dendryphantinae are at present poorly understood". The newly discovered species cannot be attributed to any known genus. The combination of depressed body, ventral fringes on every article of legs, and genital characters makes it necessary to establish a new genus, *Mburuvicha*, which is considered to belong in the Dendryphantinae because it shares the main features of the group.

The format of the descriptions follows Galiano (1963); leg spination is described as in Platnick & Shadab (1975) with small changes. All measurements are in millimetres. Abbreviations used: AME = anterior median eyes, ALE = anterior lateral eyes, PME = posterior median eyes, PLE = posterior lateral eyes, OQ = ocular quadrangle, d = dorsal, v = ventral, p = prolateral, r = retrolateral, ap = apical, MACN = Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales "Bernardino Rivadavia".

Genus *Mburuvicha*, new genus

Type species: *Mburuvicha galianoae*, new species.

Etymology: The generic name is taken from the Guaranian word *mburuvicha* (authority, chief, superior) and is feminine in gender.

Diagnosis: Related to *Phidippus* by its general appearance, body size and presence of tufts of bristles lateral to OQ, but can be distinguished by depressed body, laminar embolus with small denticles, and stronger chelicerae with oblique fang groove and a large retromarginal tooth. *Mburuvicha* can also be distinguished from *Metaphidippus* (*sensu stricto*) and *Parnaenus* by presence of cephalic tufts, and fringes on every article of all legs.

Description: Medium to large size. Depressed (Fig. 2) and very hairy body with iridescent and golden scales. Tufts of black bristles on sides of cephalic region (Figs. 1, 11). Sternum twice as long as wide. Chelicerae strong, parallel. Leg formula 1423. Legs hirsute with ventral fringes on every article, denser on first leg. Laminar embolus with small denticles on its retrolateral margin. Epigynum consisting of a pair of reniform openings.

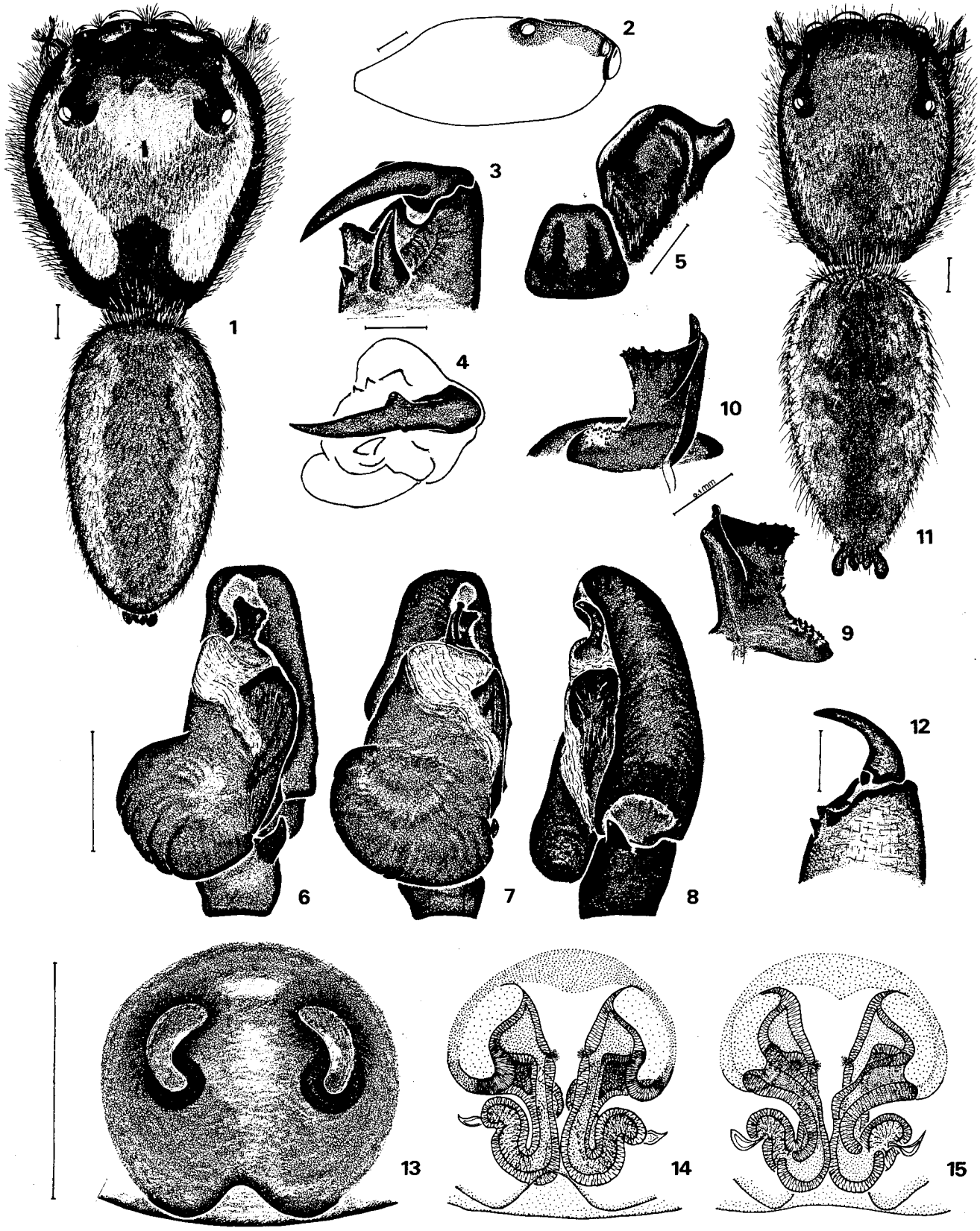
Mburuvicha galianoae, new species (Figs. 1–15)

Types: Male holotype and female allotype from Parque Nacional "El Palmar", Entre Ríos, Argentina; November 1980, Carbajal coll., MACN No. 8784; December 1974, Williner coll., MACN No. 8785, respectively, deposited in MACN.

Etymology: The specific name is a patronym in honour of Prof. María Elena Galiano, long-time student of neotropical Salticidae and director of my doctoral thesis.

Male (holotype): Total length 9.84. Carapace 4.66 long, 3.73 wide, 1.93 high. Thoracic groove 0.13 from OQ. Clypeus 0.10 high. OQ 1.63 long; first row 2.36 wide, third row 2.83 wide; distance ALE-PME 0.40, PME-PLE 0.70; diameter AME 0.73, ALE 0.37. Chelicerae (Figs. 3, 4): Oblique fang groove; promargin with two teeth, one next to angle; the other, larger, at tip of a tubercle on angle. Retromargin with a single, robust, conical tooth. Fang with a prominent tubercle on middle of anterior side. Mouth parts (Fig. 5): Maxillae with a robust tubercle on outer distal corner; labium trapezoid. Sternum 2.13 long, 1.20 wide. Leg spines: Femora I d 1-1-1, p ap 2; II d 1-1-1, p ap 2, r ap 1; III d 1-1-1, p ap 2, r ap 2; IV d 1-1-1, p ap 1, r ap 1. Tibiae I v 2-2-2; II v 1r-0-2; III p 1, r 2, v 0-0-2; IV r 2, v 0-0-1p. Metatarsi I, II v 2-2; III apical verticil 2p-2v-2r; IV apical verticil 1p-2v-1r. Abdomen 5.45 long, 2.66 wide. Palp (Figs. 6-10): Tibial apophysis conical, pointing somewhat ventrally; cymbium with a circular depression facing tibial apophysis; distal region of tegulum membranous with its edge overlapping embolic base; embolus laminar with small denticles on its retrolateral margin.

Colour (in alcohol): Orange-brown; margins of carapace, anterior half of OQ and posterior side of chelicerae darker brown. Longitudinal band of white hairs on each side of carapace, wider in thoracic area; long black and brown hairs between band and margins; tufts emerging from white band; scattered golden scales within OQ. Clypeus and chelicerae with a few long blackish hairs. Coxae and trochanters yellowish. First legs darker, femora with a prolateral patch of long white hairs and retrolateral side brown; tibiae and metatarsi darkest distally. Legs II and III yellowish. Fourth legs with distal halves of patellae, tibiae and metatarsi darkest. Scattered golden scales all over prolateral sides of legs I and II and dorsal surface of



Figs. 1–15: *Mburuvicha galianoae* n.gen., n.sp. Male: **1** Dorsal view; **2** Carapace, lateral view; **3** Chelicera, posterior view; **4** *Idem*, tubercle of fang; **5** Mouth parts; **6** Palp, retroventral view; **7** *Idem*, ventral view; **8** *Idem*, retrolateral view; **9** Embolus, ventral view; **10** *Idem*, dorsal view. Female: **11** Dorsal view; **12** Chelicera; **13** Epigynum, ventral view; **14** *Idem*, ventral view after clearing; **15** *Idem*, dorsal view. Scale lines = 0.5 mm except Figs. 9, 10 = 0.1 mm.

palps. Abdomen golden brown with a longitudinal yellow band on each side; venter yellowish with golden scales; basal border with erect black and white bristles.

Female (allotype): Total length 9.44. Carapace 4.66 long, 3.46 wide, 2.00 high. Thoracic groove 0.20 from OQ. Clypeus 0.10 high. OQ 1.73 long; first row 2.36 wide, third row 2.73 wide; distance ALE-PME 0,40, PME-PLE 0.70; diameter AME 0.70, ALE 0.33. Chelicerae (Fig. 12). Sternum 2.16 long, 1.06 wide. Leg spines: Femora I d 1-1-1, p ap 2; II, III d 1-1-1, p ap 2, r ap 1; IV d 1-1-1, p ap 1, r ap 1. Tibiae I v 2-2-2; II p 1, v 1r-0-2; III p 1, r 2, v 0-0-2; IV r 1, v 1p-0-2. Metatarsi I, II v 2-2; III apical verticil 2p-2v-2r; IV apical verticil 1p-2v-1r. Abdomen 5.66 long, 2.80 wide. Epigynum (Figs. 13–15): Two reniform openings and a notch at posterior margin. Internally, each opening divides into two funnel-like ducts that run parallel and join again in a single duct that leads to a tubular spermatheca.

Colour (in alcohol): Orange-brown; OQ and thoracic area a little darker. Long white hairs on clypeus, anterior side of chelicerae and sides of carapace. White iridescent ocular scales. Legs as in male with no golden scales but iridescent white ones. A dorsal basal brown spot on patellae, tibiae and tarsi of palps. Abdomen yellowish with a band of iridescent white scales bordering dorsum, and a longitudinal brown central band with golden scales.

Other material examined: Argentina: Entre Ríos, Villa Elisa, December 1977 (Williner coll.), 1 immature; Federal, February 1931 (Del Castillo-Daguerre coll.), 1 immature.

Distribution: Known only from Entre Ríos, Argentina.

Acknowledgement

I thank Prof. María Elena Galiano for her guidance and helpful comments on a draft of the manuscript.

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