



Two new *Tegenaria* species (Araneae: Agelenidae) from Portugal

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Abstract

The genera complex *Tegenaria/Malthonica* is a problematic spider group of the family Agelenidae. Besides taxonomical problems, new European species are described on a regular basis. Here two species from Portugal, *Tegenaria barrientosi* **sp. n.** and *Tegenaria incognita* **sp. n.**, are described. Both species show a significant similarity to *T. bucculenta*, *T. feminea* and *T. montigena*, a species group restricted to the Iberian Peninsula. *T. barrientosi* **sp. n.** can be separated by the pyramidal shaped ventral branch of the conductor, the shape and arrangement of the RTA and the proportion of the bulb-length to the cymbium-length, the run and shortness of the copulatory ducts with the diverticulae originating laterally and the irregularly sclerotized egg-shaped spermathecae, which are touching each other anteriorly. *T. incognita* **sp. n.** can be separated by the very broad lateral branch and the almost completely hidden lateroventral branch of the RTA, the shape of the conductor with the terminal end pointing towards posterior, the inwards directed epigynal teeth, the run and shortness of the copulatory ducts with the anteriorly originating diverticulae.

Key words: Iberian Peninsula, *Malthonica*, new species, Spain, taxonomy

Introduction

With a total of 83 described species, *Tegenaria* Latreille, 1804 and *Malthonica* Simon, 1898 are the most diverse genera of Agelenidae in Europe (Platnick, 2008). Currently there are 14 *Tegenaria* and 2 *Malthonica* species listed for Portugal (Cardoso, 2008). Of those species, *Tegenaria bucculenta* (L. Koch, 1868), *T. feminea* Simon, 1870, *T. montigena* Simon, 1937, *T. ramblae* Barrientos, 1978, *Malthonica lusitanica* Simon, 1898 and *M. oceanica* Barrientos & Cardoso, 2007 are endemic to the Iberian Peninsula. Both genera are well known for their taxonomical problems reflected by a long list of synonyms and rearrangements (Bolzern, et al., 2008; Gasparo, 2007; Guseinov, et al., 2005). Furthermore, many species are known by a single sex and several new species have been described recently (Barrientos & Cardoso, 2007; Deltshv, 2008). A major taxonomical problem in Agelenidae is that the genera delimitations are not sufficiently precise. This has caused problems in assigning species to the correct genus (see comments in Barrientos & Cardoso, 2007; Bolzern, et al., 2008). Due to this lack of agreement, the change in genus affiliation of the two newly described species is possible. A comprehensive revision of the European representatives of the genus *Tegenaria* based on monophyletic groups is in preparation by the first author. Nevertheless, it is important to describe newly detected forms. These forms do add new morphological information and, thus, enhance the understanding of the evolution of the taxon-group in focus.