

The genus **Brattia** Simon, 1894
in South America
(Araneae, Linyphiidae)

by L. BAERT

Summary

The genus *Brattia* Simon, 1894 is redefined. A redescription of the type species is given together with the description of a new species, *Brattia novaeteutoniae*, from Brasil. The generic definition is based upon both neotropical species.

Résumé

Le genre *Brattia* Simon, 1894 est redéfini. Une redescription de l'espèce-type est donnée avec la description d'une nouvelle espèce, *Brattia novaeteutoniae*, du Brésil. La définition du genre est basée sur les deux espèces néotropicales.

The South American Linyphiidae are very badly known. Most earlier descriptions and illustrations are inadequate for identification purposes. Therefore, we started with the redefinition and redescription of the species according to the morphologic characters used in the description of our European species (LOCKET & MILLIDGE, 1953). Meanwhile, MILLIDGE (1985) recently also started with the study of the South American Linyphiidae.

The genus *Brattia* has been defined by SIMON (1894) on the basis of three species, *B. africana* from Gabon (Ethiopian Region), *B. scutula* from the Philippines (Oriental Region) and *B. spadicaria* from Venezuela (Neotropical Region). TULLGREN added a second Ethiopian species in 1910: *B. dubia* from the Kilimandjaro.

In this paper only the South American species is taken into consideration, as it was considered as type species by SIMON.

***Brattia* SIMON, 1894**

Brattia SIMON, 1894, p. 673 (type species *Brattia spadicaria* SIMON, 1894). PETRUNKEVITCH, 1911, p. 220; 1928, p. 129. ROEWER, 1942, p. 705. BONNET, 1955, p. 914.

Manuscrit accepté le 3 avril 1987

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Description : Small spiders (total length for the neotropical representatives: 1.6-2.2 mm). The carapace is unmodified in both sexes, orange-brown. Sternum not rugose. Abdomen of pale colour with a broad dark ring around spinnerets. Dorsal tibial spines : 1111 in both sexes. Only Mt I-III with a trichobothrium, with Tm I 0.2-0.4. Claws not pectinate. Mt/Ta = 1.2-1.6. Epigynum on small elevation. The genital openings are as in *Sphecozone* located in a shallow atrium. The spermathecae are elongated and the ducts are arranged in an elongated mass parallel to the spermathecae. The male palp is without any trace of a paracymbium. The embolic division (ED) is more or less stout, the translucent embolus continues in a small curved blunt extension at the conjunction with the embolic division (where the ductus passes from the embolic division into the embolus). The ductus apparently coming straight from out the tegulum (cfr. through the stalk in *Sphecozone*).

Differential diagnosis : *Brattia* seems to be related to *Sphecozone* which is probably (MILLIDGE, 1985) related to *Ceratinopsis* and *Ceraticelus*. As *Sphecozone*, *Brattia* lacks the paracymbium. *Brattia* differs from *Sphecozone* in the structure of its embolic division and embolus, in the presence of tibial spines (1111) in the males, in the absence of a trichobothrium on Mt IV and in the arrangement of the vulval ducti. Following the reasoning of MILLIDGE (1985), that the embolic division of *Sphecozone* might be a degenerate form of the embolic division characteristic for the genera *Ceratinopsis* and *Ceraticelus*, we may suppose that the embolic division reduction was less pronounced in *Brattia*.

***Brattia spadicularia* SIMON, 1894**

Figs 1-6)

Brattia spadicularia SIMON, 1894, p. 674. PETRUNKEVITCH, 1911, p. 220; 1928, p. 129. ROEWER, 1942, p. 705. BONNET, 1955, p. 914.

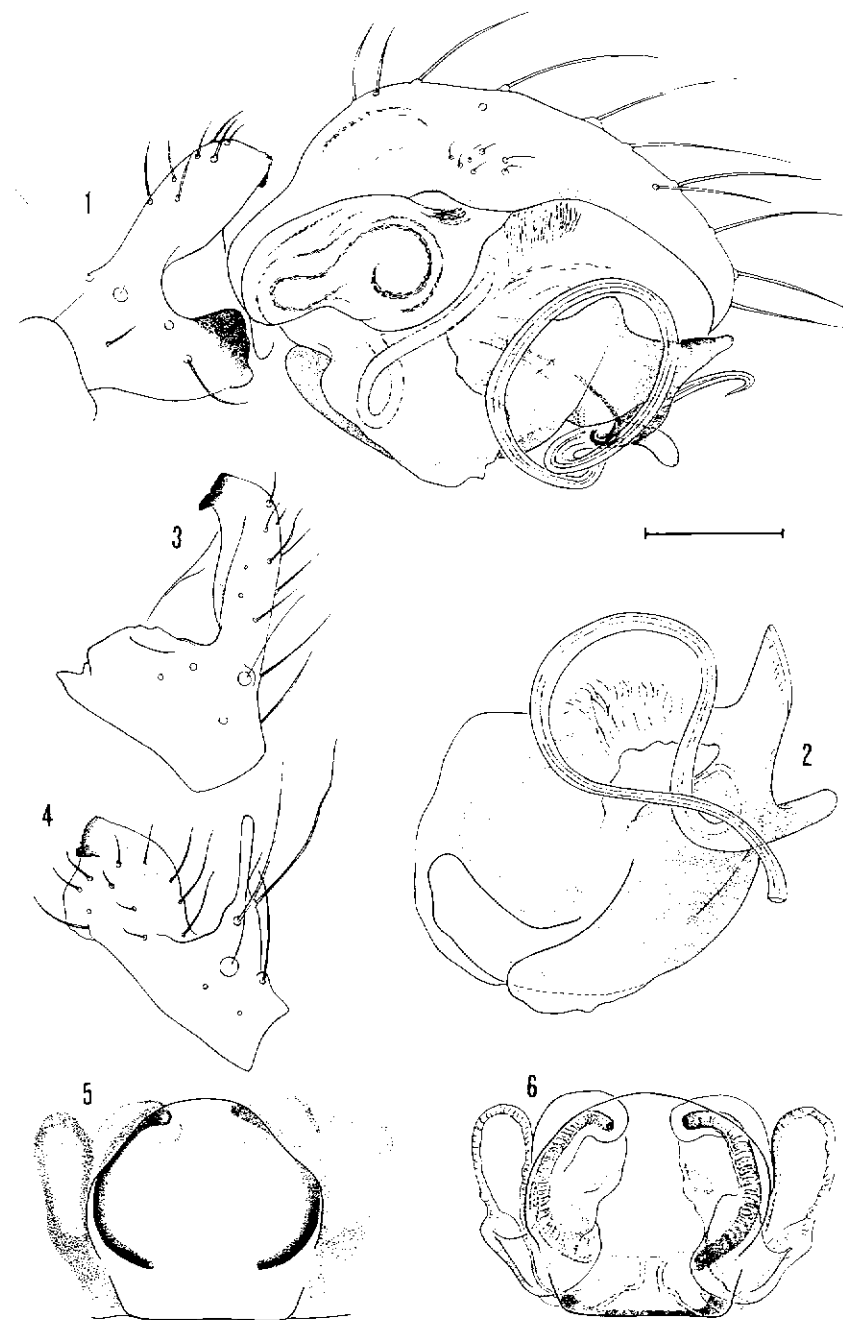
Diagnosis : The male is diagnosed by the palpal tibia and the form of the embolic division. The female is diagnosed by the epigynal form.

Description : Carapace orange-brown, abdomen whitish with a dark ring around the spinnerets. Carapace not elevated, sternum not rugose.

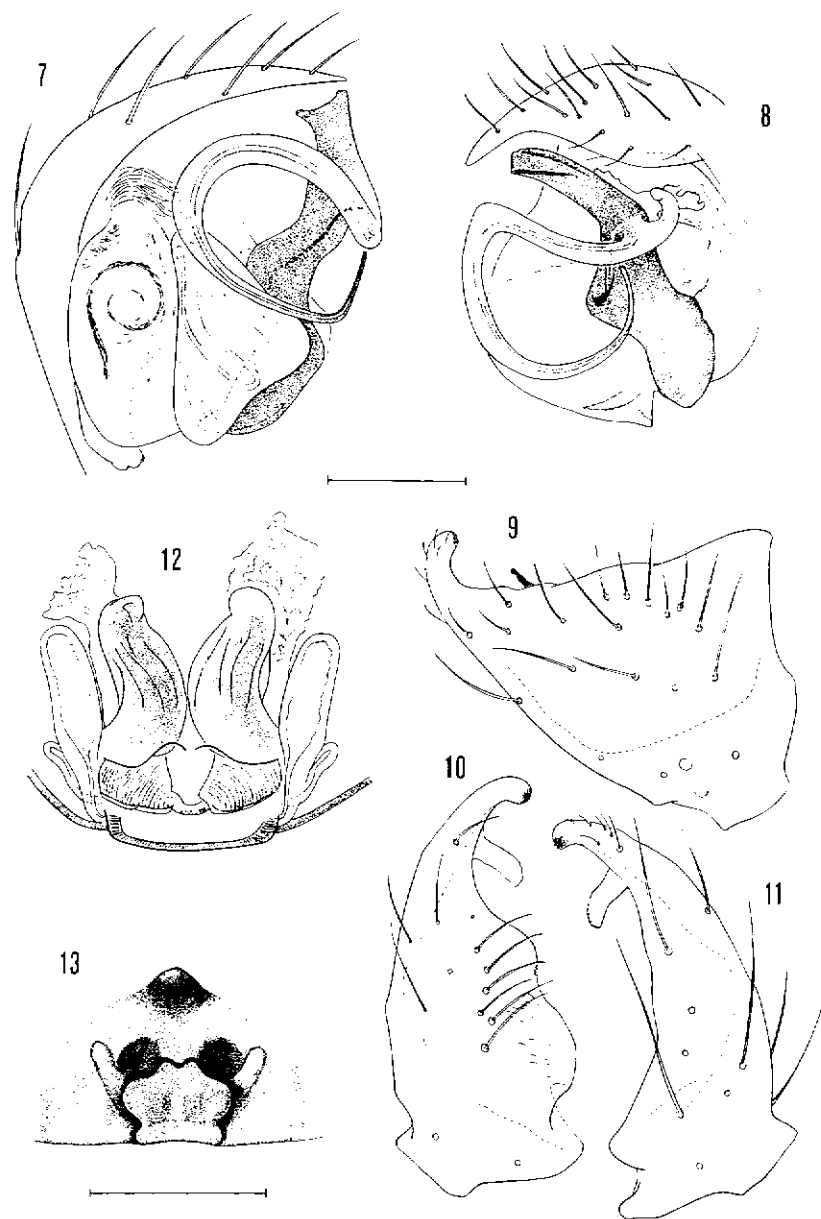
Male : Total length : 1.60-2.15 mm Carapace 0.70-1.05 mm long and 0.64-0.80 mm wide. Chelicerae with 5 pro- and 4 retrolateral teeth. AM-eyes close to each other, 1/4th of their diameter apart. AM-eyes separated from the AL's by approximately their diameter. PM-eyes separated from each other and from the PL's by approximately their diameter. Dorsal tibial spines : 1111, spines long, between 2 (legs I & II) to nearly 4 (legs III & IV) times tibial diameter. Mt/Ta = 1.2-1.4. Tm I : 0.2-0.4. Palp (figs 1-4).

Female : As in male. Total length : 1.80-2.26 mm. Carapace 0.94-1.03 mm long and ca. 0.70 mm wide. AM-eyes separated by ca. 1/3rd of their diameter. Tm I : 0.22-0.27. Mt/Ta = 1.3-1.4. Epigynum (figs 5 & 6).

Distribution : Venezuela.



Figs 1-6. *Brattia spadicularia* Simon, 1894: 1: male palp, lateral; 2: embolic division and embolus; 3: male palpal tibia, retrolateral; 4: male palpal tibia, dorsal; 5: epigynum; 6: epigynum, internal. (Scale line = 0.1 mm).



Figs 7-13. *Brattia novaeteutoniae* sp. n.: 7: male palp, lateral; 8: embolic division and embolus; 9: male palp tibia, dorsal; 10: male palp tibia, prolateral; 11: male palp tibia, retrolateral; 12: epigynum, internal; 13: epigynum. (Scale lines: 7-12: 0.1 mm; 13: 1 mm).

Brattia novaeteutoniae sp. n.
Figs 7-13)

Material examined : Brazil, Santa Catarina, Nova Teutonia (27°11S, 52°23W), VII/1955 : ♂ holotype together with 2 ♂♂ and 9 ♀♀ paratypes and 4 subadult ♂♂; II/1956 : 1 ♀ paratype; V/1957 : 1 ♂, 1 ♀ paratypes; VIII/1957 : 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀ paratypes; XII/1957 : 3 ♂♂, 1 ♀ paratype; I/1958 : 2 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀ paratypes (leg. F. PLAUMANN). Types at the Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut voor Natuurwetenschappen.

Etymology : Named after the type-locality Nova Teutonia.

Diagnosis : Male diagnosed by the palpal tibia and the form of the embolic division. Female diagnosed by the epigynal form.

Description : Carapace orange-brown; sternum brown suffused with black, not rugose; abdomen creamy with a dark ring around spinnerets. Carapace normal.

Male : Total length : 1.6-2.0 mm. Carapace 0.7-0.8 mm long and ca. 0.6 mm wide. Chelicerae with 5 pro- and 5 retrolateral teeth. AM-eyes 1/3rd of their diameter apart. PM-eyes separated from each other and from the PL's by approximately their diameter. Dorsal tibial spines : 1111; spines long, nearly 3.5 times tibial diameter. Tm 1 : 0.25-0.28. Mt/Ta = 1.3-1.6. Palp (figs 7-11).

Female : As in male. Total length : 1.6-2.0 mm. Carapace 0.75-0.82 mm long and ca. 0.60 mm wide. AM-eyes 1/3rd of their diameter apart and separated by 2/3rd of their diameter from the AL's. PM-eyes separated by 5/6th of their diameter from each other and from the PL's. Dorsal tibial spines : 1111. Tm 1 : 0.24-0.28. Mt/Ta = 1.20-1.45. Epigynum (figs 12 & 13).

Acknowledgements

The author wishes to thank Dr. J. HEURTALT (Paris) for the loan of the type material of *Brattia spadicularia* SIMON, 1894. He is also indebted to Miss K. de PIERPONT-BOUCKAERT who made the final drawings.

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