

Notes on the type material of *Compsobuthus acutecarinatus* (Simon, 1882) and *C. maindroni* (Kraepelin, 1900), and description of a new species from United Arab Emirates

(Scorpiones: Buthidae)

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Abstract. Two species of the genus *Compsobuthus* Vachon, 1949, *C. acutecarinatus* (Simon) and *C. maindroni* (Kraepelin), have been the subject of several publications in the last three decades. Nevertheless, some doubts remain about their precise identity and range of geographic distribution. We give here precise re-diagnoses in the light of the type material now clearly identified. The holotype of *C. acutecarinatus* is properly illustrated and measured. A lectotype is designated for *C. maindroni*, from the large syntype series. A new species of *Compsobuthus* is also described from United Arab Emirates.

Key words. Scorpion, Buthidae, *Compsobuthus*, type material, new species, Yemen, Oman, United Arab Emirates.

Introduction

In recent years, some rather comprehensive contributions have made attempts to clarify the precise identity of several *Compsobuthus* species and also their precise range of distribution. Some of these studies proved to be successful (e.g. SISSOM & FET 1998) thanks largely to the precise study of old types. Others, however, although the efforts have been honest (SISSOM 1994, KOVAŘÍK 2003, HENDRIXSON 2006), were unable to clarify precisely the identity of several old species. A key aspect for the clarification of the identity of old species in this complex group of scorpions is the precise redefinition of type specimens. In the present paper, we clearly redefine the status of the type specimens of two old species: *Compsobuthus acutecarinatus* (Simon, 1882) and *Compsobuthus maindroni* (Kraepelin, 1900). Since the historical aspects about the creation and composition of this genus have already been discussed in previous papers (LOURENÇO 1999, 2004; LOURENÇO & VACHON 2001, LOURENÇO et al. 2009), we will not return to this point here. A new species is also described from United Arab Emirates.

Methods

Illustrations and measurements were produced with the aid of a Wild M5 stereo-microscope with a drawing tube (camera lucida) and an ocular micrometer. Measurements follow STAHNKE (1970) and are given in mm. Trichobothrial notations follow VACHON (1974) and morphological terminology mostly follows VACHON (1952) and HJELLE (1990). MNHN: Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris. ZMH: Zoologisches Museum, Hamburg.