

Description of the females of the spiders *Plesiophantes joosti* Heimer, 1981 and *Araeoncus clavatus* Tanasevitch, 1987 from Turkey

(Araneae: Linyphiidae)

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Abstract. *Plesiophantes joosti* Heimer, 1981 and *Araeoncus clavatus* Tanasevitch, 1987 were originally described on the basis of single male specimens from Georgia and Armenia, respectively. The females of both species have not yet been described. We redescribe *P. joosti* based on a series of new specimens including 2 adult males and 6 adult females collected from two localities in the Artvin province of Turkey. *A. clavatus* is redescribed based on 3 adult males and 1 adult female collected from two localities in the Artvin and Ardahan provinces of Turkey. Both species are new records for the spider fauna of Turkey. Drawings of characteristic features, the female genitalia and the male palpal organs are presented.

Key words. *Plesiophantes joosti*, *Araeoncus clavatus*, Linyphiidae, description, Turkey.

Introduction

The genus *Plesiophantes* was established by HEIMER (1981) for *Plesiophantes joosti*. According to the world spider catalogue, the genus currently comprises three species from the Palaearctic region (PLATNICK 2011). It is characterised by lateral bristles on the femora of the first walking legs and a muscular bulge on the back edge of the claw furrow of the chelicerae. The cymbium of the male palpus has a dorsal protuberance, the paracymbium complex, the eyeball with short and long lamella, and thick embolus (HEIMER 1981). *Plesiophantes joosti* is known from Georgia, but the description was based only on the male. We found both sexes in the Artvin province in the eastern Black Sea Region of Turkey and redescribe the species.

The genus *Araeoncus* was established in 1884 and comprises currently 38 species worldwide including 27 from the Palaearctic region (PLATNICK 2011). *Araeoncus clavatus* was described from Armenia, based on the male only. We found both sexes in the Artvin and Ardahan provinces in the eastern Black Sea Region of Turkey and redescribe the species.

Abbreviations. D: diameter, Emb: embolus, Ed: embolic division, Sp: spermatheca, Cd: copulatory duct, Cnd: conductor, M: membrane, mm: millimetre, Ma: median apophysis, Sa: suprategular apophysis, Tap: tibial apophysis, Ra: radix, Pc: paracymbium, L: lamella, Cym: cymbium, T: tegulum, NUAM: Arachnology Museum of Niğde University, Turkey.