



ARTÍCULO:

**Notes on the spider family
Agelenidae in southern South
America (Arachnida: Araneae)**

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Revista Ibérica de Aracnología

ISSN: 1576 - 9518.
Dep. Legal: Z-2656-2000.
Vol. 9, 30-VI-2004
Sección: Artículos y Notas.
Pp: 179-182.

Edita:

**Grupo Ibérico de Aracnología
(GIA)**

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**NOTES ON THE SPIDER FAMILY AGELENIDAE IN
SOUTHERN SOUTH AMERICA (ARACHNIDA: ARANEAE)**

Martín J. Ramírez, Cristian Grismado & Theo Blick

Abstract:

The spider family Agelenidae is represented in southern South America only by three synanthropic, originally Palearctic species of *Tegenaria*: *T. domestica* (Clerck), *T. pagana* C. L. Koch and *T. parietina* (Fourcroy), the last of these newly recorded from the Western Hemisphere. The other records of Agelenidae in southern South America are misidentifications: *Coreidon tropicum* Mello-Leitão, from Brazil, is transferred to *Strotarchus* Simon (Miturgidae), *Hicanodon cinerea* Tullgren, from Argentina, is transferred to the Amaurobiidae, and *Philoicoides pallidus* Mello-Leitão, from Argentina, is synonymized with *Tegenaria pagana*. *Mevianops fragilis* (Mello-Leitão) from Colombia, is synonymized with *Tegenaria domestica*. New South American records of *Tegenaria* species are provided. The female genitalia of *Hicanodon cinerea* are illustrated.

Key words: Araneae, Agelenidae, Miturgidae, Amaurobiidae, *Tegenaria*, taxonomy, South America.

Taxonomy:

Tegenaria Latreille 1804,
= *Philoicoides* Mello-Leitão, 1944, **new synonymy**.
= *Mevianops* Mello-Leitão, 1941, **new synonymy**.
Tegenaria domestica (Clerck 1757),
= *Mevianops fragilis* Mello-Leitão 1941, **new synonymy**.
Tegenaria pagana C. L. Koch 1840,
= *Philoicoides pallidus* Mello-Leitão 1944, **new synonymy**.
Strotarchus Simon, 1884,
= *Coreidon* Mello-Leitão, 1917, **new synonymy**.
Strotarchus tropicum (Mello-Leitão, 1917), **new combination**.

**Notas sobre la familia Agelenidae en el sur de Suramérica (Arachnida:
Araneae)**

Resumen:

La familia de arañas Agelenidae está representada en el sur de Suramérica por sólo tres especies sinantrópicas de *Tegenaria*, originalmente paleárticas: *T. domestica* (Clerck), *T. pagana* C. L. Koch y *T. parietina* (Fourcroy), ésta última registrada por primera vez en el Hemisferio Occidental. Los restantes registros de Agelenidae en el sur de Suramérica son identificaciones erróneas: *Coreidon tropicum* Mello-Leitão, de Brasil, es transferida a *Strotarchus* Simon (Miturgidae), *Hicanodon cinerea* Tullgren, de Argentina, es transferida a Amaurobiidae y *Philoicoides pallidus* Mello-Leitão, de Argentina, es sinonimizada con *Tegenaria pagana*. *Mevianops fragilis* (Mello-Leitão) de Colombia, es sinonimizada con *Tegenaria domestica*. Se proveen nuevos registros suramericanos de las especies de *Tegenaria*. Se ilustra la genitalia interna de *Hicanodon cinerea*.

Palabras clave: Araneae, Agelenidae, Miturgidae, Amaurobiidae, *Tegenaria*, taxonomía, Suramérica.

Taxonomía:

Tegenaria Latreille 1804,
= *Philoicoides* Mello-Leitão, 1944, **nueva sinonimia**.
= *Mevianops* Mello-Leitão, 1941, **nueva sinonimia**.
Tegenaria domestica (Clerck 1757),
= *Mevianops fragilis* Mello-Leitão 1941, **nueva sinonimia**.
Tegenaria pagana C. L. Koch 1840,
= *Philoicoides pallidus* Mello-Leitão 1944, **nueva sinonimia**.
Strotarchus Simon, 1884,
= *Coreidon* Mello-Leitão, 1917, **nueva sinonimia**.
Strotarchus tropicum (Mello-Leitão, 1917), **nueva combinación**.

Introduction

The family Agelenidae was for long time a dumping ground for three-clawed, cribellate entelegyne spiders, lacking the distinctive characters of better defined groups (Lehtinen, 1967). Once believed to be well represented in South America by several genera (Roth, 1967), its presumed Neotropical members were progressively transferred to other families (Zodariidae, Hahnidae, Austrochilidae, Trechaleidae, and Linyphiidae; see Roth, 1965; Lehtinen, 1967). A larger block of genera was transferred to Desidae and Amaurobiidae, through the dramatic

reimitation of Amaurobiidae and related families made by Lehtinen (1967). At this point, besides the *Tegenaria* species introduced from Europe (Roth, 1968), the only South American representatives still listed in Agelenidae are six species in six genera, five of which are monotypic, and known from only one specimen. Of those six species, three are restricted to the northern parts of the continent: one immature specimen from French Guiana, tentatively identified as an undescribed species of *Novalena* Chamberlin and Ivie by Roth (1967), a genus widespread in United States to Central America and Trinidad (Chamberlin & Ivie, 1942; Roth, 1967); *Neotegenaria agelenoides* Roth, known from a female from Guyana (Roth, 1967); and *Mevianops fragilis* Mello-Leitao, 1941 described on base of a female from Colombia (Roth, 1967), here synonymized with *Tegenaria domestica*.

The remaining three species, from the southern areas of the continent, also represent monotypic genera each. *Coreidon tropicum* Mello-Leitão 1917, known from a male from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, is a miturgid, belonging to the genus *Strotarchus* Simon, *Hicanodon cinerea* Tullgren 1901 from Patagonia, is an amaurobiid, and *Philoicoides pallidus* Mello-Leitão 1944, known from a female from Buenos Aires, Argentina, is here identified as a *Tegenaria*. All these point out that Agelenidae as currently limited may not be represented in southern South America, except by the introduced *Tegenaria*, in agreement with Lehtinen's opinion that "true Agelenids are practically unknown in the central and southern parts of the Neotropical region" (1967: 342). In this paper we present new data on introduced *Tegenaria* species, and the synonymies of *Philoicoides* and *Mevianops* with *Tegenaria* and *Coreidon* with *Strotarchus*.

Results

Tegenaria Latreille 1804

Tegenaria Latreille, 1804: 134. See synonymy in Platnick (2003).

Philoicoides Mello-Leitão, 1944: 335 (type species by monotypy *Philoicoides pallidus* Mello-Leitão). Roth 1967: 304 (*Philocoides* lapsus), 314. **New synonymy.**

Mevianops Mello-Leitão, 1941: 118 (type species by monotypy *Mevianops fragilis* Mello-Leitão). Roth 1967: 312. **New synonymy.**

NOTE: The natural distribution of the genus is mainly Palearctic, plus ten endemic species reported from caves in Mexico and the southern United States (Roth, 1968; Gertsch, 1971; Brignoli, 1974).

Tegenaria domestica (Clerck 1757)

Araneus domesticus Clerck, 1757: 76. See synonymy in Platnick (2003).

Mevianops fragilis Mello-Leitão 1941: 119 (one abdomen of immature and one female, probably the types, from Bogotá, in MNRJ 1249, ["ZOOLOGIA VERTEBRADOS / Bogota, 3 exemplares (2 ex. retirados)"], examined. **New synonymy.**

NOTE: Previous South American records of this cosmopolitan species are from Ecuador, Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, and Chile (Roth, 1967 and references therein; Capocasale 1980, 1990).

SYNONYMY: Roth (1967: 312) speculated that this species could belong to the Zodariidae (the types were unavailable at that time), but the adult female is clearly a specimen of *Tegenaria domestica*.

OTHER MATERIAL EXAMINED: COLOMBIA: Bogotá, XI.1964, H. Duplat, 1 ♀, 2 ♂♂, 3 juv. (MACN-Ar 9961). ARGENTINA: Córdoba Prov.: Valle Hermoso, III.1943, J. M. Viana, 1 ♀ (MACN-Ar 1254). La Pampa Prov.: Conhelho, II.1943, H. C. Heffer, 1 ♂ (MACN-Ar 9940); Santa Rosa, IV-V.1967, Arana, 1 ♂ (MACN-Ar 9941). Neuquén Prov.: San Martín de los Andes, I.1962, no collector data, 1 ♀ (MACN-Ar 9942); Zapala, I.1958, J. R. Navas, 1 ♂ (MACN-Ar 9947); Junín de los Andes, XI.1970, P. Carriotto, 5 ♀♀ (MACN-Ar 9948); Nahuel Huapi, no date, Haveylenko, 4 ♀♀ (MACN-Ar 9949); Parque Nacional Nahuel Huapi, Isla Victoria, XII.1959, I. I. De Orfila, 1 ♀ (MACN-Ar 9950). Río Negro Prov.: Lago Mascaradi, I.1996, C. Grismado, 1 ♀ (MACN-Ar 9956); Bariloche, IV.1962, Haveylenko, 1 ♀ (MACN-Ar 9945); 1969, Miller, 1 ♀, 2 ♂♂ (MACN-Ar 9960); XII.1982, M. Ramírez, 2 ♂♂ (MACN-Ar 9959); Bariloche: Cerro Catedral, I.1962, Coscarón, 1 ♀ (MACN-Ar 9958); Bariloche: Estación de Piscicultura Río Gutiérrez ("en piletas"), 17.VI.1981, A. Bachmann, 1 ♂ (MACN-Ar 9957); Estancia San Ramón, Rincón Chico, Río Limay, X-XII.1962, Haveylenko, 1 ♂ (MACN-Ar 9951), 2 ♀♀ (MACN-Ar 9952), 2 ♂♂ (MACN-Ar 9953), 2 ♀♀ (MACN-Ar 9954), 1 ♂ (MACN-Ar 9955). Chubut Prov.: Los Cipreses, XI.1982, M. Ramírez, 1 ♂ (MACN-Ar 9946).

Tegenaria pagana C. L. Koch 1840

Tegenaria pagana C. L. Koch, 1840: 31. See synonymy in Platnick (2003).

Philoicoides pallidus Mello-Leitão, 1944: 335 (female holotype MLP 15990, from Argentina, Buenos Aires province, La Plata, Oct. 1940, J. A. Rosas Costa, examined). **New synonymy.**

NOTE: The specific identification of *Philoicoides pallidus* was first made by MJR, and later independently by Vincent Roth (label in vial, and in litt.). Previous South American records of this widespread species are from Northern South America ("Neue Granada") and Chile (Roth 1967, and references therein).

OTHER MATERIAL EXAMINED: ARGENTINA: Capital Federal: 5.XI.1951, Hernández, 1 ♂ (MACN-Ar 9939); II.1950, Lemos-Carpintero, 2 ♂♂ (MACN-Ar 9924). Buenos Aires Prov.: Saavedra, IX.1937, Castillo, 1 juv. (MACN-Ar 222); III.1935, A. S. y S. R. Castillo, 3 juv. (MACN-Ar 9927); Tres Arroyos, no date, Venturi, 1 ♂ (MACN-Ar 9928), Bahía Blanca, no date, no collector, 1 ♂ (MACN-Ar 9926); Provincia de Salta: Salta, 12.I.1985, P. Goloboff, 2 juv (MACN-Ar 9922). CHILE: Santiago, IV.1958, M. Toro, 1 ♂ (MACN-Ar 9925).

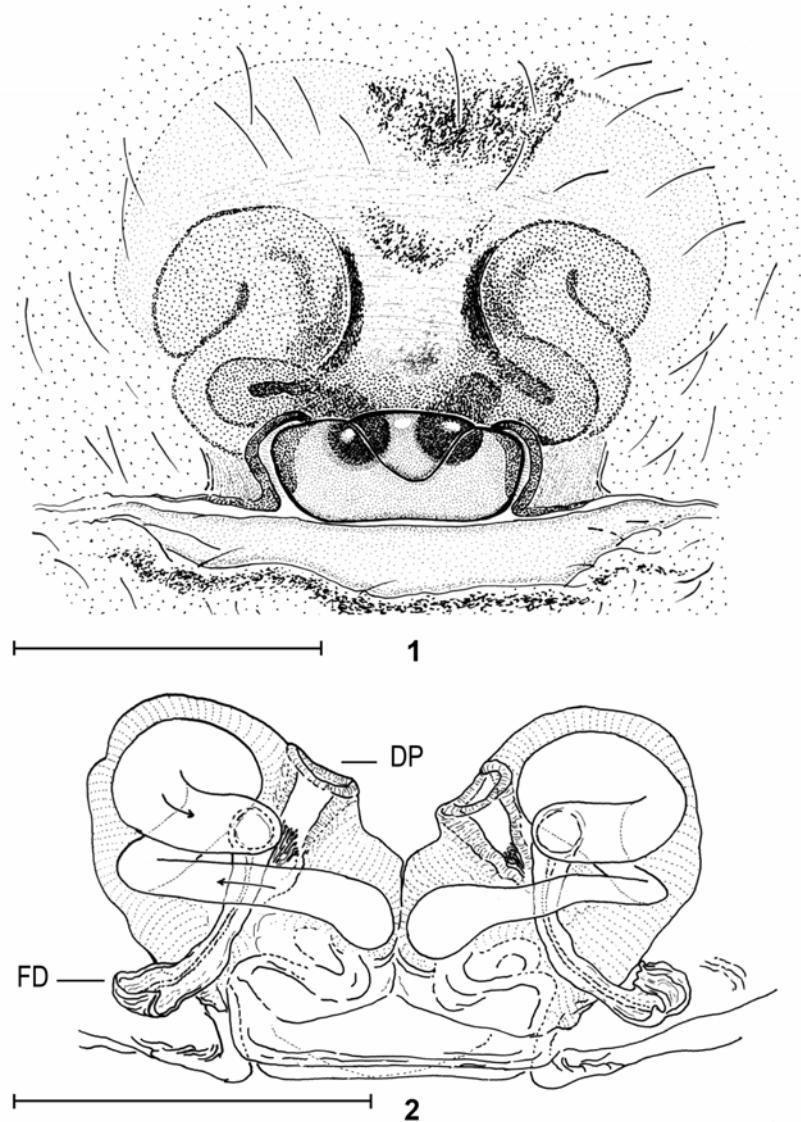
Tegenaria parietina (Fourcroy 1785)

Aranea parietina Fourcroy, 1785: 533. See synonymy in Platnick (2003).

Tegenaria sp. Capocasale, 1982: 8; 1990: 4.

NOTE: This European species is quite common in buildings and basements in Montevideo, Uruguay (F.

Fig. 1-2. *Hicanodon cinerea* Tullgren, 1901, female genitalia (MACN-Ar 10383). **1.** epigynum, ventral. **2.** vulva, dorsal, cleared in clove oil (FD: fertilization duct; DP: “dictynoid” pore). Scale bars: 0.2 mm.



Pérez-Miles and R. Capocasale, pers. comm.). It was found only once in Buenos Aires, Argentina. These are the first records from Western Hemisphere.

MATERIALEXAMINED: URUGUAY: Montevideo, Fac. de H. y Ciencias, no date, L. C. Zolesi leg., 2 ♀♀, 1 ♂ (FCMU). ARGENTINA: Capital Federal: Av. Pedro de Mendoza N° 1981, II-1963 (maturity molt 8.II.1963), Bernardini, 1 ♀ (MACN-Ar 9944).

Misplaced Species

Family MITURGIDAE

Subfamily Miturginae

Strotarchus Simon, 1884

Strotarchus Simon, 1884. See synonymy in Platnick (2003). *Coreidon* Mello-Leitão, 1917: 15 (type species by monotypy, *C. tropicum*, Mello-Leitão, 1917). **New Synonymy.**

Strotarchus tropicum (Mello-Leitão, 1917)

Coreidon tropicum Mello-Leitão, 1917: 15 (male holotype from Pinheiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, deposited in MNRJ, examined). **New combination.**

NOTE: Vincent Roth (in litt.) early pointed out that the type of this species belongs to the family Miturgidae. Our examination of the specimen leaves not doubt that it is a *Strotarchus*, showing the elongate cymbial tip typical of this genus (Kaston, 1948: fig. 1275; Edwards, 1958: fig. 1). The genus will be revised elsewhere (Bonaldo, Brescovit & Ramírez, in prep.).

Family AMAUROBIIDAE

Hicanodon Tullgren, 1901

Hicanodon Tullgren, 1901: 252 (type species by monotypy *H. cinerea* Tullgren, 1901). See synonymy in Platnick (2003).

Hicanodon cinerea Tullgren, 1901 (Figs. 1, 2)

H. cinerea Tullgren, 1901b: 253, female holotype from Chile, Magallanes, Río Tres Pasos, E. Nordenskjöld, deposited in SMNH, examined). Roth, 1967: 305, 1988: 33. *Rubrius cinereus* Lehtinen, 1967: 263.

NOTE: This species lacks the elongate terminal article of the posterior lateral spinnerets typical of Agelenidae. Its

general morphology is compatible with a placement in Macrobuinae (Amaurobiidae), very diverse in Southern South America, but until the males are known, it is not possible to confirm its subfamilial placement. The epigynum and spermathecae are illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2.

OTHER MATERIAL EXAMINED: ARGENTINA: Río Negro Prov.: Parque Nacional Nahuel Huapi, Puerto Blest, 7-20.I.2000, L. Lopardo and A. Quaglino, 1 & , 1 juv. (MACN-Ar 10383). CHILE: Región X (de los Lagos): Chiloé Prov.: Chiloé: Arroyo Cole-Cole, 25 km N of Cucao, 8-11.II.1991, M. Ramírez, 1 & (MACN-Ar 10384).

Acknowledgments

The late Vincent Roth kindly made available his unpublished data on the types of *Philoicoides* and *Coreidon*. Specimens for this study were provided by Luis Pereira (Museo de La Plata, MLP), Cristina L. Scioscia and the late María Elena Galiano (Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales, Buenos Aires, MACN-Ar), Adriano Kury (Museo Nacional de Rio de Janeiro, MNRJ), Törbjörn Kronstedt (Swedish Museum of Natural History, Stockholm, SMNH), Fernando Pérez-Miles and Miguel Simó (Facultad de Ciencias Montevideo, Uruguay, FCMU). We also thank to Charles Griswold, Norman Platnick and Alexandre Bonaldo for helpful comments on a draft of the manuscript. Support for this study was provided by fund TX024 from the Buenos Aires University to MJR.

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