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Description of a new species of *Lagnus* L. KOCH, 1879 from Fiji  
archipelago  
(Araneae: Salticidae)

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ABSTRACT. A new species of the jumping spider genus *Lagnus* L. KOCH, 1879: *L. monteithorum* from Viti Levu Is. is described, diagnosed and illustrated.

Key words: arachnology, taxonomy, *Lagnus*, new species, Salticidae, Pacific Is., Fiji.

INTRODUCTION

The salticid genus *Lagnus* was established by KOCH 1879 for *L. longimanus* by monotypy. SIMON (1900) included *L. kochi* in the genus, however WANLESS (1988) transferred it to newly described genus *Jacksonoides*. Genus *Lagnus* was previously placed into Astieae by SIMON (1901), later WANLESS (1988) transferred it to the subfamily Euophryinae, because of its structure of the palpal organs. Until now only the male specimen was known in this genus.

The new species described herein is related to the type-species - *L. longimanus*, judging from the shape of its body, cheliceral dentition, long legs and presence of numerous ventral spines on the tibiae and metatarsi of the first legs. However, it is only one specimen known, in this case female, although more than 120 salticid specimens from Fiji archipelago was studied during this research. Because specimen of *L. monteithorum* n. sp. was collected from the another island than the *L. longimanus* and there are no data about their habitats it would be too early to unite them in the one species until the further studies are conducted. To assign these species properly we need more information about their biology and/or collect male and female specimens together.

*Lagnus* is known only from Fiji (PLATNICK 2008, PRÓSZYŃSKI 2007), and not from Australia (as listed in the catalogue of BONNET 1958) and the long-term study of the

Australian Salticidae did not confirm its occurrence on this continent (ŽABKA, pers. comm.).

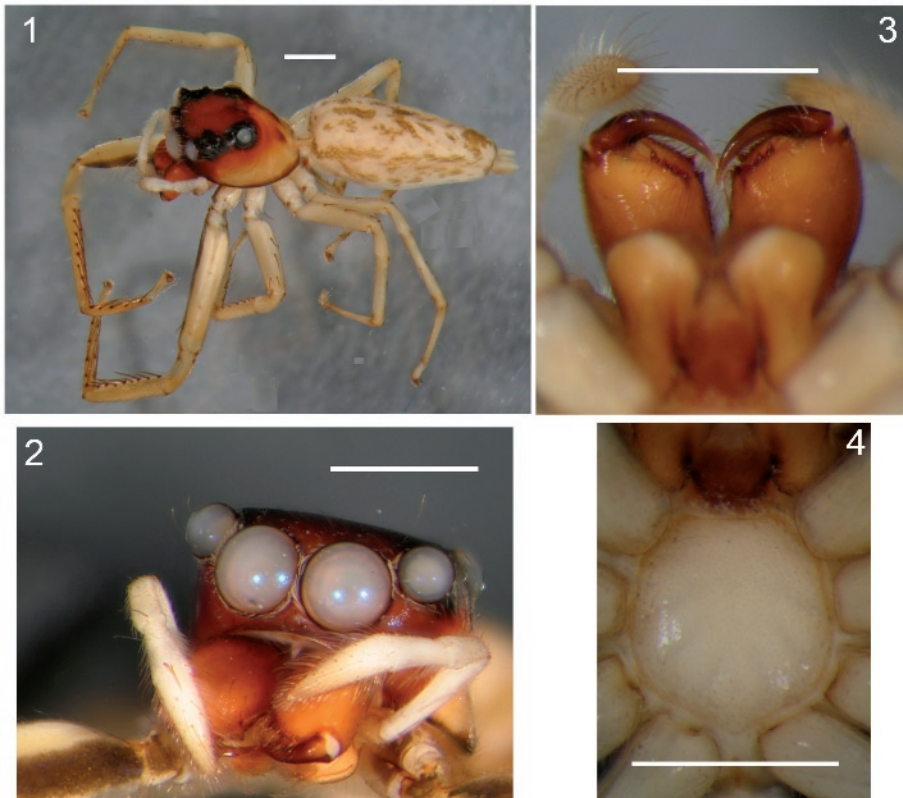
#### MATERIAL AND METHODS

The study is based on ethanol-preserved material from Fiji, provided by Dr Robert RAVEN (Queensland Museum, Brisbane = QMB). Measurements are given in millimetres. The drawings were made using a grid system. A Canon PowerShoot A620 digital camera, attached to the stereomicroscope was used for photographing specimen. The epigyne was removed for study and digested in 10% KOH.

Abbreviations used: AEW - anterior eye width, ag - accessory gland, AL - abdomen length, AME - anterior median eyes, AW - abdomen width, CH - cephalothorax height, CL - cephalothorax length, co - copulatory openings, CW - cephalothorax width, EFL - eye field length, L - legs, PEW - posterior eye width, PLE - posterior lateral eyes.

#### *Lagnus monteithorum* n. sp.

(Figs 1-8)



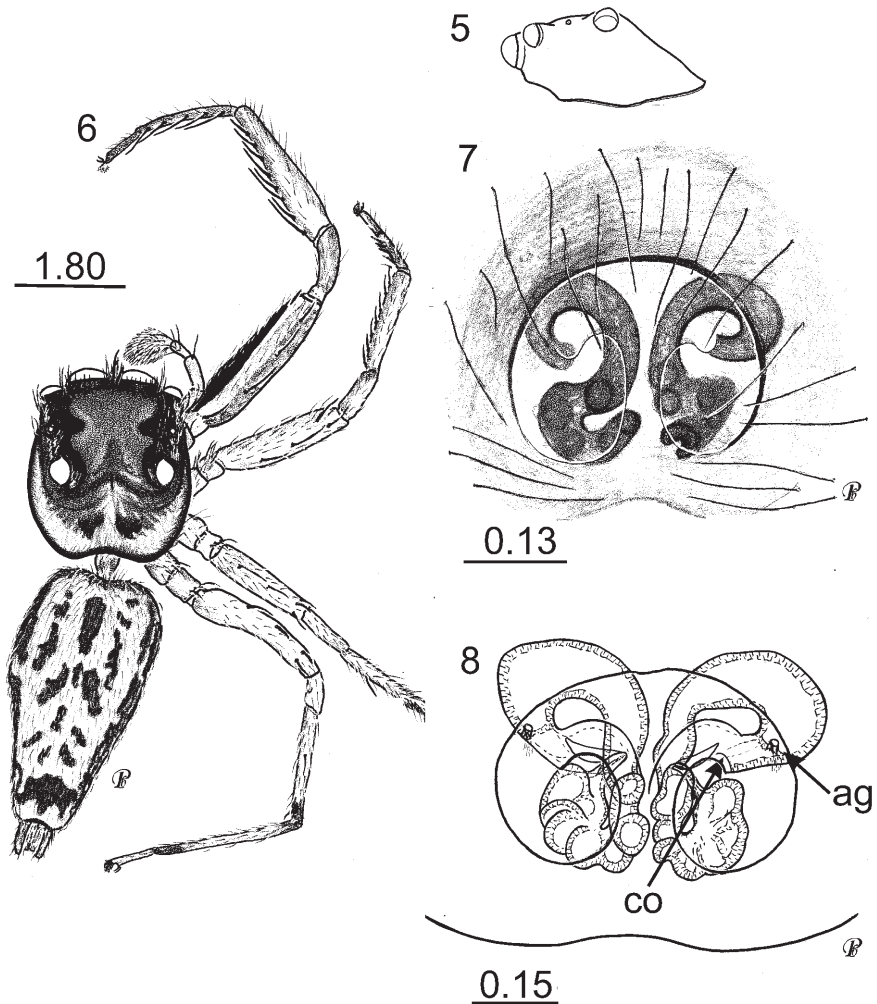
1-4. *Lagnus monteithorum* n. sp. (holotype): 1 – general appearance, dorso-laterally; 2 – frontal view; 3 – cheliceral dentition; 4 – sternum; scale 1.00 mm

ETYMOLOGY

This species is named after its collectors G. B. & S. R. MONTEITH.

DIAGNOSIS

Cephalothorax high with gentle posterior slope. Posterior eyes moderately pronounced. Tibia and metatarsi of the I legs with numerous ventral spines and its femur; trochanter and coxa with darker stripe on anterio-lateral parts. Receptacles multi-chambered.



5-8. *Lagnus monteithorumi* n. sp. (holotype): 5 – cephalothorax laterally; 6 – general appearance dorsally; 7 – epigyne; 8 – internal structure of epigyne; scales on drawings as in figures

## DESCRIPTION.

Male unknown.

Female. Holotype. Cephalothorax sloping anteriorly to highest point at PLE (fig. 5). Eye field wider than long, brown, surrounding of eyes black with whitish hairs. Fovea visible. Posterior slope grey-brown with lighter leaf-like belt and two brown patches (fig. 6). Sides lighter with dark brown stripe at the margin (fig 1). Abdomen elongated, narrowed at posterior part, grey brown, its pattern as in fig. 6. Spinnerets greyish. Clypeus low, brown (fig. 2). Chelicerae light-brown, plurident (fig. 3). Maxillae and labium light brown its tips yellowish. Sternum heart-shape, whitish (fig. 4). Venter whitish, with grey spots. Pedipalps whitish. Legs light, femur, trochanter and coxa of the I legs with darker stripe on its antero-lateral parts. Legs with numerous spines (fig.1, 6); ventral spination of tI: 2-2-2-2-2-2-2-2, mI: 2-2-2-2-2; tII: 2-2-2-2-2-1-2, mII: 2-2-2-2. Epigynum with two large membranous windows, anteriorly not separated (fig. 7). Copulatory openings hidden under the rim, insemination ducts short, first chamber of spermathecae long and curved (fig. 8), next chambers forming seven loops.

Measurements: CL 2.40, CW 2.00, CH 1.30, AL 3.60, AW 1.75, EFL 1.30, AEW 1.95, PEW 1.75, L1 10.37, L2 7.38, L3 6.64, L4 11.30.

## MATERIAL EXAMINED

Holotype: female, (QM S35612), Fiji: Viti Levu: Nadarivatu Reserve, 850 m, coll. MONTEITH G. B & S. R., 11-12.07.1987.

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