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Taxonomic position of the *Bathyphantes pusiolus* (FICKERT, 1875) (Araneae: Linyphiidae)

ROBERT ROZWALKA

Department of Zoology, University of Maria Curie-Skłodowska, Akademicka 19, 20-033 Lublin, Poland;
e-mail: arachnologia@wp.pl

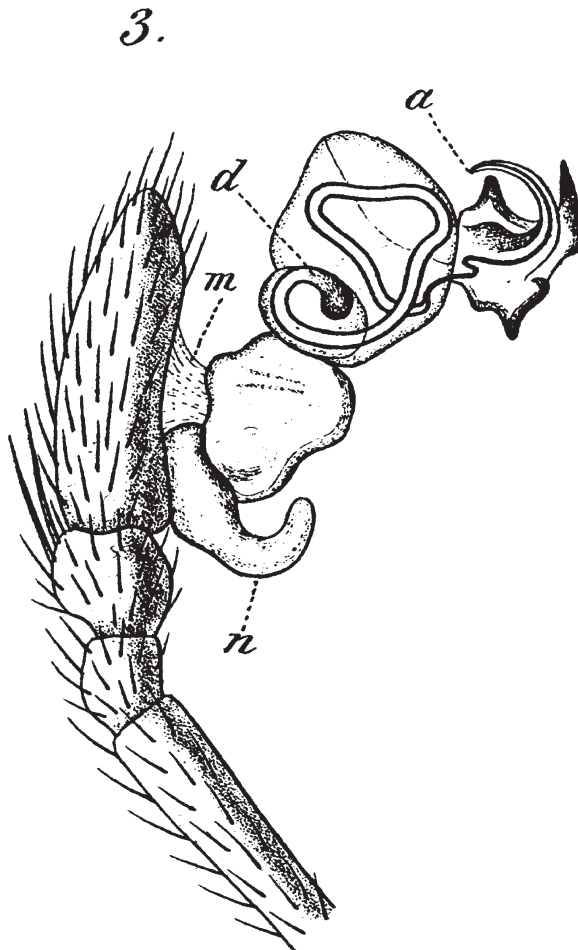
ABSTRACT. The analysis of the original description of *Bathyphantes pusiolus* (FICKERT, 1875) is given and the name is synonymised with *Porrhomma convexum* WESTRING (1861).

Key words: arachnology, nomenclature, synonymisation, *Bathyphantes pusiolus*, *Porrhomma convexum*.

FICKERT (1875) described *Linyphia pusiola* on the basis of a single specimen found below the top of Brummberg Mt (Studnični Hora = Studzienna Góra) in Karkonosze Mts (Czech Republic). SIMON (1884) transferred this species to the genus *Bathyphantes* MENGE most probably basing only on FICKERT's comments: "Diese kleine in die Nähe von *Linyphia parvula* Westr. gehörige" [*L. parvula* = *Bathyphantes parvulus*], without studying morphological characters of the species. After the SIMON's taxonomic decision the species was included in the subsequent catalogues of spiders (REIMOSER 1919, BONNET 1955, PRÓSZYŃSKI & STARĘGA 1971) as *Bathyphantes pusiolus* (FICKERT, 1875). According to The World Spider Catalog (PLATNICK 2009) and Fauna Europaea (VAN HELSDINGEN 2007) taxonomic status of *B. pusiolus* is not questioned and the species is valid in terminological sense. However this species is not included in the lists of spiders of Central Europe (BLICK et al. 2004), Czech Republic (BUCHAR & RŮŽIČKA 2002) and Poland (STARĘGA 2004). STARĘGA (1983) recognized *Bathyphantes pusiolus* as a doubtful species and removed it from the list of spiders of Poland, because its occurrence has never been confirmed since the moment of description.

Taxonomic position of this species remains unclear, as the type species of *Linyphia pusiola* was lost. However, the description given by FICKERT (1875: p. 20, fig. 3) is quite precise and the identification of the species is possible. Analysis of the original

description with drawn documentation allows for the statement that the specimen described by FICKERT as *Linyphia pusiola* (FICKERT 1875: p. 20, fig. 3) is conspecific with *Porrhomma convexum* (WESTRING, 1861). This fact is corroborated by included comments about body coloration, proportions of leg's segments and distribution of bristles on the legs (FICKERT 1875). Also the FICKERT's figure illustrating structure of male palp (Fig. 1) shows very clearly the presence of sickle-bended embolus characteristic for *Porrhomma convexum* (vide THALER 1968: (detailed description as subspecies of *P. pygmaeum*) p. 369-370: fig. 5e; ROBERTS 1987: p. 114 (description) fig. 58b; WIEHLE 1956: p. 238 and 241 (detailed description); figs: 400a-c). *P. convexum* is a widely distributed palaeartic linyphiid, also occurring in Czech and Poland (BUCHAR & RŮŽIČKA 2002, WOŽNY et al. 1988).



1. Reproduction of FICKERT's original drawing of male palp of *Linyphia pusiola*

CONCLUSION

The analysis of the original description indicates that the name *Bathyphantes pusiolus* (FICKERT, 1875) is a younger synonym of *Porrhomma convexum* (WESTRING, 1861).

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