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New species of *Phintella* from West Africa (Araneae: Salticidae: Heliophaninae)

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ABSTRACT. *Phintella guineensis*, the new species of jumping spider from Nimba Mts is described.

Key words: arachnology, taxonomy, Salticidae, *Phintella*, new species, Afrotropical region.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Phintella* BÖSENBERG et STRAND, 1906 from the subfamily Heliophaninae is widely distributed and it contains numerous species mainly from the Oriental Region and Palaearctic. Only a few members of this genus live in the other parts of the World, seven of them are known from the Afrotropical region (PLATNICK 2013, PRÓSZYŃSKI 2013). The species described in this paper – *Phintella guineensis* – is the first one belonging to this genus that has been recorded in the western part of tropical Africa. The other members of this genus from Sub-Saharan Africa were reported from Angola, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania, South Africa and Zimbabwe (PLATNICK 2013), so one may expect to find *Phintella* in the future also in the other parts of this region.

***Phintella guineensis* nov. sp.**

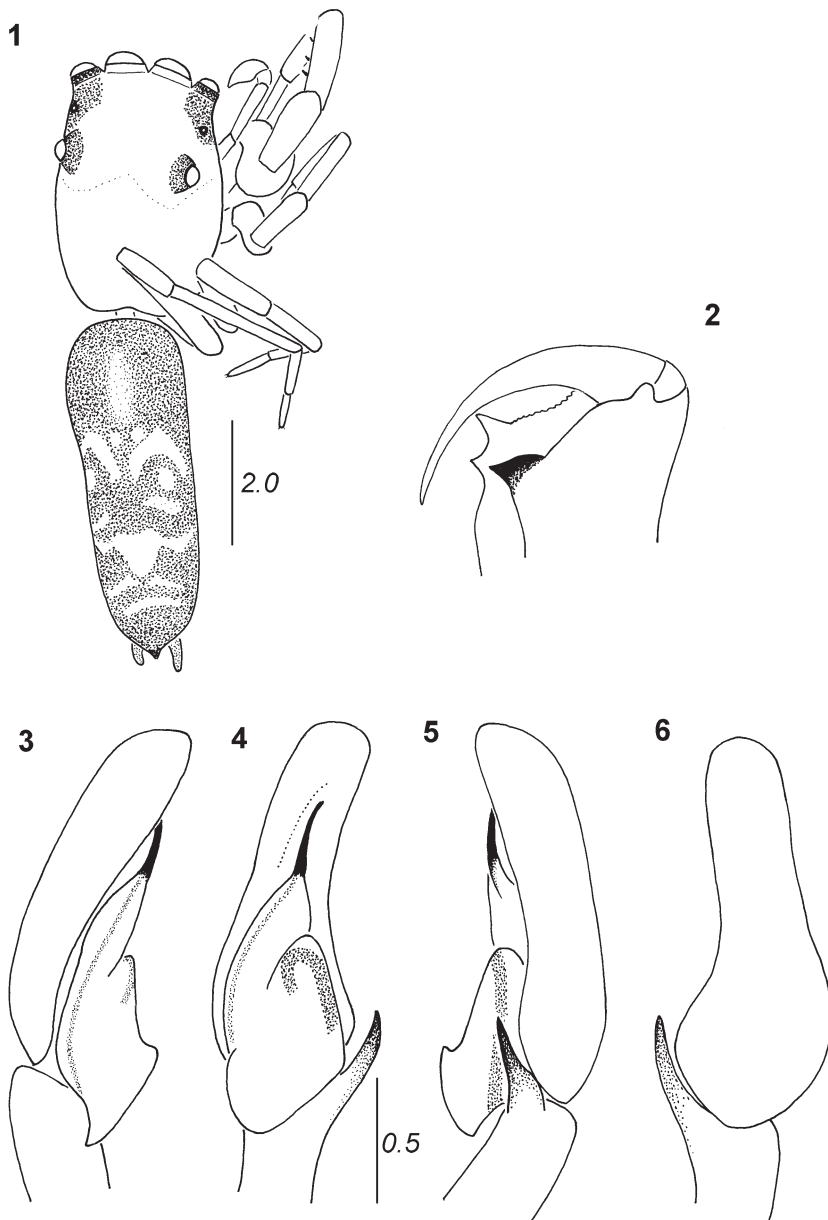
(Figs 1-9)

TYPE MATERIAL

Holotype: male, GUINEA, Kéoulenta [07°39'N 08°23'W, N part of Nimba Mts], 20.VI.1942, coll. M. Lamotte (Natural History Museum, London).

Paratypes:

2 females together with the holotype (1 subadult male and 4 imm. in the same vial); 1 female, the same data.



1-6. *Phintella guineensis*, male, holotype: 1 – general appearance, 2 – cheliceral dentition, 3 – palpal organ, prolateral view, 4 – palpal organ, ventral view, 5 – palpal organ, retrolateral view, 6 – palpal organ, dorsal view

DIAGNOSIS

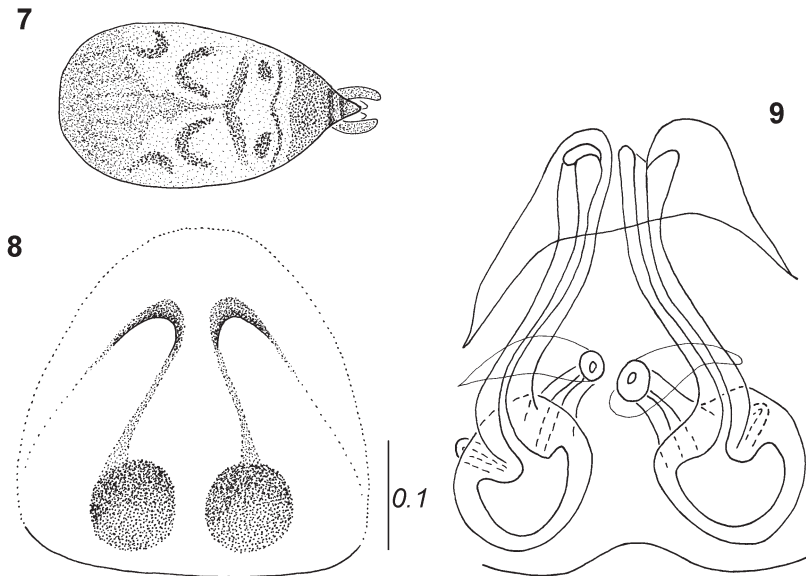
This species may be easily distinguished from the other members of the genus by the structure of genitalia. The male palp has a characteristic narrow cymbium that doesn't resemble any other form of cymbium among the species of *Phintella*. The embolus is clearly longer than in the other species, except for *Ph. caledoniensis* PATOLETA, 2009 and *Ph. conradi* PRÓSZYŃSKI et DEELMAN-REINHOLD 2012. These species however, have got the other shape of the bulb and wider cymbium. The very long abdomen of the male of *Ph. guineensis* is similar to the one in *Ph. planiceps* BERRY, BEATY et PRÓSZYŃSKI, 1996 originating from Caroline Islands, but structure of palpal organs is different in these two species. The female is easily separated from the other *Phintella* females by the long seminal ducts that are straight in their inlet part and that have copulatory openings located beneath a roof-like ridge formed by the anterior edge of epigynal depression. Moreover, there are no pockets at the posterior edge of epigyne.

ETYMOLOGY

The species is named after its *terra typica* (Guinea).

DESCRIPTION

Measurements [in mm] (male/female). Cephalothorax: length 2.3/2.0, width 1.7/1.4, height 0.6/0.5. Abdomen: length 3.3/2.2-2.9, width 1.1/1.0-1.3. Eye field: length 1.1/0.9-1.0, anterior width 1.4/1.2-1.3, posterior width 1.5/1.3-1.4.



7-9. *Phintella guineensis*, female, paratype: 7 – abdominal pattern, 8 – epigyne, 9 – internal structure of epigyne

Male. Medium-sized spider with elongated body. General appearance as in Fig. 1. Carapace oval, slightly flattened, brown with blackish rings surrounding eyes (except anterior medians), indistinct lines radiating from small fovea on thoracic part. Sparse white hairs on eye field, longer on lateral and anterior edges of eye field, a few similar short hairs cover slopes of carapace. Clypeus low, brownish. Labium and sternum dark yellow, endites darker at their base. Chelicerae light brown, large, promargin serrated with two teeth, single wide tooth on retromargin (Fig. 2). Abdomen elongated, narrower than carapace, greyish brown with the pattern composed of yellowish patches (Fig. 1). A few long brown bristles on anterior edge of abdomen, sparse and short light hairs on light area of abdomen. Venter yellow tinged with grey. Spinnerets yellow. First pair of legs longer and thicker than the other pairs, light brown, with three pairs of ventral spines on tibia and two pairs on metatarsus. Legs II-IV yellow. Hairs on legs sparse and thin, brownish; only tibia I with denser and longer hairs along ventral surface. Pedipalps light, creamy. Cymbium narrow and elongated (Figs 3-6). Tibial apophysis straight, pointed (Figs 4-6). Bulb triangular with small posterior lobe, embolus relatively long (Fig. 4).

Female. Carapace oval, light brown with black area surrounding eyes (except anterior medians), almost hairless, only a few hairs near eyes. Clypeus very low. Sternum and mouth parts light yellow. Abdomen not elongated, ovoid and tapering, yellowish grey with pattern composed of darker spots, posterior part brownish (Fig. 7). Dorsum of abdomen without hairs, only with a few long brown bristles on anterior margin. Venter light, creamy. Spinnerets long, brownish. Legs light yellow, I and II with 3 pairs of ventral spines on tibia and 2 pairs on metatarsus. Palps whitish. One female darker, its abdomen brownish grey with traces of lighter spots. Epigyne with large shallow grove (Fig. 8). Copulatory openings hidden in pocket formed by anterior rim of epigynal grove, seminal ducts long with accessory glands near spermathecae. Spermathecae almost spherical, with thick strongly sclerotized walls (Fig. 9).

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