

29. Claws III–IV multibranching (on a 90° stem), placed on a stem (Figure 4.42b); tarsus II with five to six segments. **Travuniidae**
- . Claws III–IV with five branches (never on a 90° stem, Figures 4.34f,g); tarsi II with 13 to 15 segments. **Pentanychidae**

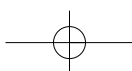
Agoristenidae Šilhavý, 1973

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Etymology: *Agoristenus*, presumably from Greek *agora* (gathering) and *stenos* (few); related to rarity of the family at time of discovery.

Characterization:

- Size: body length around 2–5 mm.
- Dorsum: Body trapezoidal attenuate (Zamorinae, Figure 4.20c), rectangular (Leiosteninae, Figure 4.20a) to oval (Agoristeninae, Figure 4.20e). Ocularium close to anterior border, very high with a pair of spines (Zamorinae, Figure 4.20c) or low with median depression (saddle shaped, Figure 4.20a) and usually smooth and unarmed (Agoristeninae, Leiosteninae, Figure 20a). Five areas on dorsal scutum, often effaced; I–IV and posterior margin with small tubercles; I divided; III–IV, posterior margin, and free tergites with or without a pair of spines.
- Venter: Coxae with transverse rows of granules, growing larger anteriorly. Coxae I–III parallel to each other, IV a little more developed, but not hypertelic. Spiracles usually exposed.
- Chelicerae: Similar in both sexes (Agoristeninae) or with enlarged segment II on males (Zamorinae and almost all Leiosteninae); segment I smooth or with small tubercles on dorsal.
- Pedipalps: Short, thick with short setae (Agoristeninae, Zamorinae, Figure 4.20c) or slender with very long setae (Leiosteninae, Figure 4.20f).
- Legs: Usually straight; I filiform and very short (Agoristeninae, Leiosteninae), II–IV normal or very long (Leiosteninae), I–IV short and densely granulate (Zamorinae, Figure 4.20c); IV with large tubercles in some males (Agoristeninae) or minute-tuberculate. Coxa IV anterior (near grooves II–III). Tarsal formula: 4–9(3):7–28(3–6):5–8:5–10. Tarsal process absent (except males of *Lichirtes*); claws smooth and subparallel.
- Genitalia (Figures 4.20g–i): Truncus with an apical ventral plate short, unarmed, and divided; with strong setae bent to proximal side, uniramous (Zamorinae), bifid, or trifid (Agoristeninae, Leiosteninae). Stylus usually with dorsal soft longitudinal crest or keel.
- Color: Varies from yellowish to dark brown; may show yellow stripes or white or green patches. Legs and tubercles may be darker.
- Sexual dimorphism: Shown by cheliceral hand (segment II) swollen in males, tubercles on trochanter to tibia (mainly on leg IV) of males, and enlarged male astragalus IV.



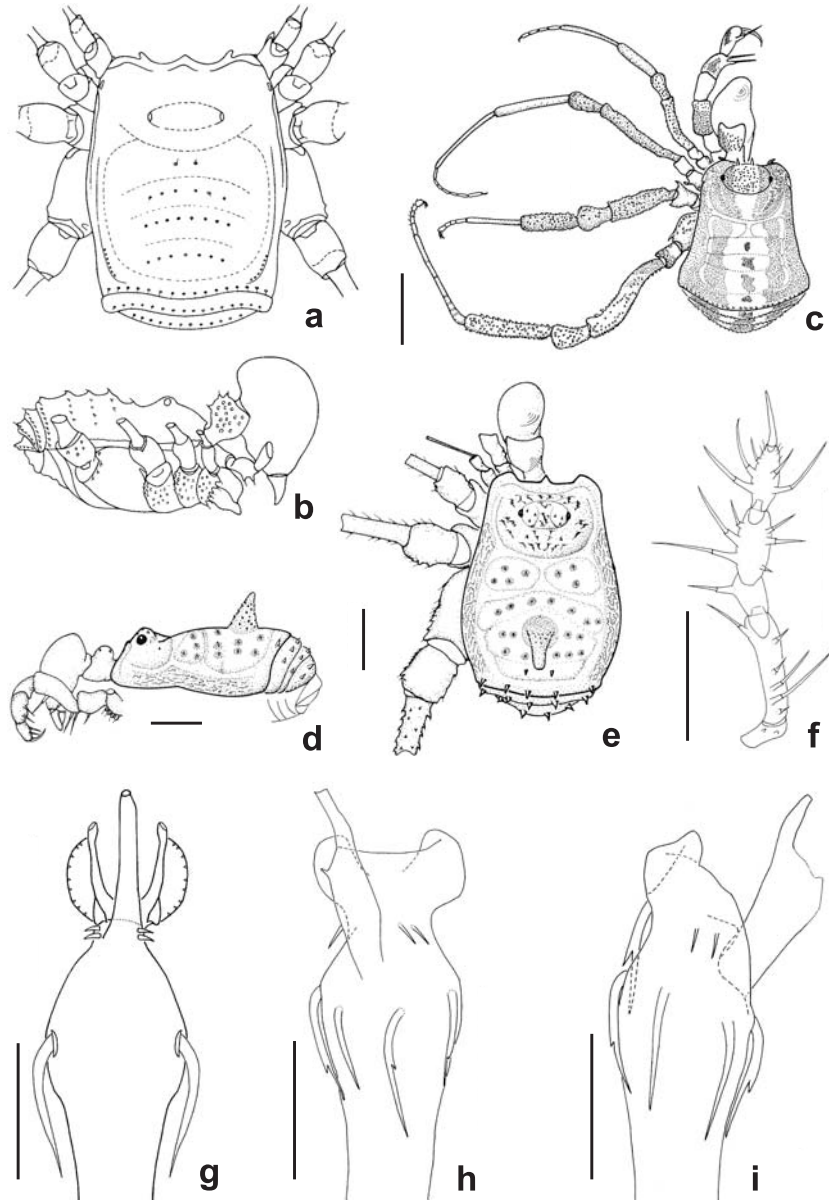
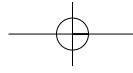
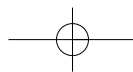
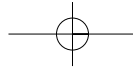


Figure 4.20. Agoristenidae. Leiosteninae, *Trinella bubonica*: (a) habitus dorsal; (b) lateral. Zamorinae, *Zamora vulcana*: (c) habitus dorsal; (g) penis, dorsal. Agoristeninae, *Leptostygnus leptochirus*: (d) habitus lateral; (e) dorsal. Leiosteninae, *Trinella matintaperera*: (f) pedipalpus; (h) penis, dorsal; (i) lateral. Scale bars: 1–6 = 1mm; 1–3, 4–6 at same scale. Sources: a–b, González-Sponga (1997); c, g, Kury (1997b); d–e, Kury (1993b); f, h–i, Pinto-da-Rocha (1996c).





Key to subfamilies:

1. Leg I short and thick, ocularium enlarged (Figure 4.20c) **Zamorinae**
 . Leg I elongated and filiform, ocularium low, strongly depressed medially (Figure 4.20a) 2
2. Male chelicera swollen; pedipalp with long setae on ventral femur and tibia-tarsus (Figure 4.20f) **Leiosteninae**
 . Chelicera similar in both sexes; pedipalp with short setae on ventral femur and tibia-tarsus (Figure 4.20d) **Agoristeninae**

Distribution: Agoristeninae is endemic to the Greater Antilles. Leiosteninae and Zamorinae were recorded from northern South American countries (Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Guyana, Surinam, French Guiana, and Brazil).

Relationships: Leiosteninae and Agoristeninae are sister groups, and Zamorinae is the basal clade (Kury, 1997b). Agoristenidae is the sister group of all Gonyleptoidea except Stygnopsidae (Kury, 1997c).

Main references:

- **Systematics:** Šilhavý (1973), González-Sponga (1987), Kury (1993b, 1997b).
- **Natural history:** González-Sponga (1987), Pinto-da-Rocha (1996c).

Assamiidae Sørensen, 1884

Adriano B. Kury

Etymology: *Assamia*, from Assam, the province in India where *Assamia westermanni* has been collected.

Characterization:

- **Size:** Medium-sized to large Laniatores, body length 2–8 mm. Legs I–IV very variable, 4–25/8–70/5–30/7–40 mm long.
- **Dorsum:** Dorsal scutum (Figures 4.21a,b,e) outline much wider at opisthosoma, often with a major constriction at area IV. Mesotergum usually clearly divided into areas by grooves, which may be partially effaced. Armature of areas and tergites highly variable, perhaps either completely smooth and unarmed or armed with spiniform apophyses. In some species the scutum is densely covered with granules and tubercles. Ocularium always present, usually low and with weak armature, sometimes elevated, forming a frontal cone (Figure 4.21e), with eyes much reduced or absent (Irumuinae).
- **Venter:** Coxae apically with large lobes. Spiracles often concealed by stout tubercles (Figure 4.21b).
- **Chelicerae:** Cheliceral hands usually not swollen, and basichelicerite rarely with ornamentation of tubercles, but when present may be extremely dense

