

NOTES ON THE GENUS *STENOSTYGNELLUS* ROEWER (OPILIONES: STYGNIDAE) IN VENEZUELA

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Stenostygnellus Roewer 1913 is a poorly known genus of Neotropical harvestmen, with only two current species from Venezuelan mountain system. *S. flavolimbatus* Roewer, 1913, type species of the genus, was described from Caracas, and recorded from the state of Aragua. The other species, *S. macrochelis* (Roewer, 1917), was described from Zulia, and recorded from Distrito Capital and Mérida by Pinto-da-Rocha. In the same paper, *S. beebei* Goodnight & Goodnight, 1949, is considered as a synonymy of *S. flavolimbatus*. Motivated by the wide distribution of this species and material of a new species recently collected, we decide to review this accessible group. Photographs of the holotype of *S. macrochelis* were compared with material recently collected from El Ávila, National Park (Distrito Capital), Henry Pittier National Park (Aragua) and Colonia Tovar (Aragua), allowing a determination of the taxonomic status of some populations of the genus in North Central Venezuela. The population from El Ávila National Park, Capital District, is herein located in *S. flavolimbatus*, and both sexes of this species are described, including the morphology of the penis for the first time. *Stenostygnellus beebei* is revalidated for the population of Henry Pittier N.P. and *S. praetiosus* is maintained here as junior synonym of this species. The male described by Pinto da Rocha as *S. flavolimbatus* is considered as *S. beebei* and the female of this species is described. *S. macrochelis* is evaluated by external morphology, and probably, this species is endemic to Sierra de Perijá. However, the little knowledge about *S. marginalis* hinders the determination of the precise identity of these species and relationships, so I prefer to maintain the synonym proposed by Pinto da Rocha. A new species from Colonia Tovar (Aragua) is characterized. All genital structure of the males are described and illustrated and a generic diagnosis is presented.

Poster, Tuesday 7th

GENERIC BOUNDARIES IN VENEZUELAN LEIOSTENINAE (OPILIONES: AGORISTENIDAE)

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Leiosteninae Šilhavy, 1973 is a derivate subfamily within Agoristenidae well distributed in north of South America. Currently possesses about 10 genera and 56 species, many of them small genera with few species, distributed in restricted areas of Venezuela, described by González-Sponga in his extensive taxonomic revision of the family in this country. However, our current knowledge about this group is insufficient, not only from a taxonomic point of view, but also from systematic and biogeographic perspective. The larger genus *Trinella* Goodnight & Goodnight, 1947 seems not to be a natural group and needs an urgent review of its species. Its diagnosis reminds the old Roewerian system, grouping many species on the base of a homoplastic character. Also, the other genera of the subfamily wait for a genital description to allow an understanding of the relationships among them. This study is not a phylogenetic analysis of the subfamily, but an effort to detect genital and external diagnostic and autapomorphic characters to define the generic boundaries in Venezuelan leiostenines. We studied at least one representative of 5 of the 7 genera present in this country, describing their genital morphology for the first time. It is evident that a review of the subfamily is needed, but for the time being, we detected only one generic homonymy and propose a replacement name (*Avima* Roewer, 1949 to replace *Trinella*), a monophyletic and less inclusive group within *Avima* (= *Trinella*), and we characterized a new species of *Leptostygnus* Mello-Leitão, 1940, which permitted us to evaluate the status of this genus and their relationship with the current synonymy *Angela*. Additionally, we present new diagnoses to *Avima*, *Barlovento* González-Sponga, 1987, *Leptostygnus*, *Paravima* Caporiacco, 1951 and *Vimina* González-Sponga, 1987.

Poster, Wednesday 8th