New Harvestman Genus and Species from Kyrgyz Republic (Kyrgyzstan) (Arachnida: Opiliones: Nemastomatidae)

Nataly Yu. Snegovaya

Zoological Institute NAS of Azerbaijan, proezd 1128, kvartal 504, Baku, AZ 1073, Azerbaijan; E-mail: snegovaya@yahoo.com

Abstract: A new genus and new species are described from the territory of Central Asia – Starengovia kirgizica gen. et sp. nov. A comparison between new genus and other nemastomatid genera is given.

Key words: harvestmen, Kyrgyzstan, Nemastomatidae, Starengovia kirgizica gen. et sp. nov.

Introduction

The family Nemastomatidae is widely distributed throughout the Caucasus (Redikorzev 1936, Mchedze 1952, 1959, 1964, Starega 1966, 1978, Charitonov 1941, Liovushkin, Starobogatov 1963, Liovushkin 1972, Martens 2006, Snegovaya, Chemeris 2005, Chemeris 2009 and others) and in Europe (Roewer 1951, Šilhavý 1956, Starega 1976, Martens 1978 and others). From the territory of Central Asia, up to the present report, only one species was known: Medisotoma pamiricum Starega, 1987. While reviewing collections from Central Asia the specimens of the family Nemastomatidae were found that did not correspond with any known genera or species. It is therefore the purpose of the present contribution to describe Starengovia gen.n., and name it in honour of the Polish arachnologist Prof. Wojciech Starega.

Abbreviations used: ZIN – Zoological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences in Sankt-Petersburg; RCNS – reference collection of Nataly Snegovaya.

Starengovia gen. n.

Diagnosis. A genus of the family Nemastomatidae that is very close to Medisotoma Kratochvíl, 1958 and Caucinemastoma Martens, 2006. From Medisotoma (Mitov, 2002, Martens, 2006), the new genus differs by the structure of the penis (presence of large transparent ‘wings’ on the shaft); composition of the chelicerae (appendage on basal segment of chelicerae has another form); borders of tergits and edge of the body outlined by close and continuous rows of quadrangular denticles; eye mound with large quadrangular denticles. From Caucinemastoma (Martens, 2006), the new genus differs also by different penis structure, cheliceral apophyses of another form, and leg constitution (legs of the new genus are shorter and thickened).

Compare also with Acromitostoma Roewer, 1951 (Rambla 1983). From Acromitostoma the new genus differs also by a different structure of penis (truncus appendages and glans of penis) and eye mound ornamentations.

Colouration of the body from ochre to dark-brown.

Body surface papillose; body margin and tergite borders outlined by close and continuous rows of quadrangular denticles. Anterior edge of cephalothorax with large quadrangular denticles, similar in appearance to a ‘hammer’. Tergites I-V each with a pair of low, cylindrical tubercles.

Eye mound round, covered with large denticles. Chelicerae normal size, distal segment of male with hornlike apophyses.

Pedipalps not very long, thin.
Legs not very long, II pair thinner and longer than others, femora of legs (II-IV) with 2-8 pseudoarticulations.

Penis with large trapezoid transparent ‘wings’ on the shaft.

Species typica: – *Starengovia kirgizica* sp. nov.  
**Etymology:** The genus is named in honour of the well known Polish arachnologist Prof. Wojciech Staręga.

**Starengovia kirgizica** sp. nov.  
(Figs. 1-6)  
**Diagnosis:** Tergites I-V with a pair of low, cylindrical tubercles, distal segment of male chelicera with hornlike apophyses; penis with large trapezoid transparent ‘wings’ on the shaft.

**Type Material:** 1♂ (holotype) (ZIN), 1♂ (paratype) (RCNS), Kyrgyzstan, Alash Mountain Ridge, Alash River valley, near Alash 1550 m a. s. l., under stones, 26 May 1993, leg. Dr. S. Dashdamirov.

**Description:** Male (measurement are of holotype). Body length 1.7 mm, width 1.1 mm. Body ovoid to quadrangular; integument papillose; body margin and tergite borders outlined by close and continuous row of quadrangular denticles. Anterior edge of cephalothorax with large quadrangular denticles, shaped like ‘hammer’ (‘T’-shaped denticles). Tergites I-V with a pair of low, cylindrical tubercles. Eye mound

---

**Fig. 1-6. Starengovia kirgizica** sp. nov. male holotype. Body dorsal view (1). Right chelicera, prolateral view (2). Right chelicera, retrolateral view (3). Cheliceral apophyses, lateral view (4). Right pedipalpus, prolateral view (5). Dorsal views of penis (6). Glans, dorsal view (7). Scale lines = 0.05 mm (7), 0.1 mm (2-3, 5-6), 0.5 mm (1).
round, with large quadrangular denticles, placed near anterior part of cephalothorax. Tergites I-V with a pair of low, cylindrical tubule-like tubercles inclined posteriorly. Tips of these tubules bear aciculae.

Chelicerae normal sized, basal segment dorsally with triangular shaped apophysis with curved top; prolaterally with group of large tubercles; identical tubercles on dorsal side of triangular apophysis. Apophyses covered with long bristles. Prolateral side with a large blunt tubercle. Distal segment typical in form, covered with long bristles. Cheliceral segments 0.5 mm long (basal), 0.57 mm long (distal).

Palps normal, all segments covered with bristles and club-shaped bristles. Length of palpal segments: femur 0.69, patella 0.57, tibia 0.45, tarsus 0.29; total length 2.0 mm.

Legs not very long, II pair thinner and longer than others; Femora of all legs (except II pair) thickened; widths for femora I-IV: 0.2 – 0.13 – 0.23 – 0.2 mm. Femora with pseudarticulations as follows: I-0, II- 8(7), III- 2(2), IV- 3(3). Coxae I-IV covered on edge with ‘hammer’-like tubercles and with small tack-like tubercles on all surfaces. All leg segments covered with small hairs. Lengths (femur through tarsus in mm) of legs:

- I: 0.9 + 0.4 + 0.65 + 0.9 + 0.95 = 3.8;
- II: 1.65 + 0.5 + 1.25 + 2.0 + 1.5 = 6.9;
- III: 0.95 + 0.38 + 0.75 + 1.0 + 0.9 = 3.98;
- IV: 1.45 + 0.45 + 0.9 + 1.25 + 1.05 = 5.1.

Penis not very long, rounded in transverse section, slightly flattened dorso-ventrally. Two large trapezoid transparent wings on distal third of truncus. Glans with small spicules. Penis length 1.37 mm. Female unknown.

Remarks: Starengovia kirgizica sp. nov. is very close to Mediostoma pamiricum STAREGA, 1986 (known only female Holotype) (STAREGA, 1986, p. 302), but differs from our new species by longer cylindrical tubercles on tergites I-V, as beside Histricostoma KRATOHLIL, 1958. Only the finding of female specimens from the type locality of S. kirgizica sp. nov. and comparison the genitalia structures of the both species will help to clarify the relationship between of the both species Starengovia kirgizica sp. nov. and Mediostoma pamiricum. The pedipalps of the S. kirgizica sp. nov. are very close to Mediostoma armatum MARTENS, 2006. Chelicera of S. kirgizica sp. nov. is very close to the A. rhinocerus, but differs bigger curvature. The new genus considerable differs from other Nemastomatid species by large trapezoid transparent ‘wings’ on the shaft of the penis truncus.

Etymology: The species is named after its type locality – Kyrgyzstan.

Distribution: Kyrgyzstan.

Acknowledgements: The author is extremely grateful to Dr. S. Dashdamirov (Dusseldorf, Germany) for collected material and Prof. W. Starega (Warsaw, Poland) for his kind help with recognition and diagnosis of the new species. Dr. J. Cockendolpher (Lubbock, Texas, USA) is thanked for comments and improving English. Also thank to Dr. Pl. Mitov (Sofia University, Faculty of Biology, Bulgaria) for critical review and help to correct the article.

References


Нов род и вид сенокосец от Киргизката република (Киргизстан) (Arachnida: Opiliones: Nemastomatidae)

H. Снеговая

(Резюме)

Нов род и вид са описани на територията на Централна Азия – Starengovia kirgizica gen. et sp. nov. Направено е сравнение между новия род и другите немастоматидни родове.