

ARTÍCULO:

Description of *Pikelinia uspallata* sp. n., from Mendoza, Argentina (Araneae, Filistatidae)

Cristian J. Grismado

División Aracnología, Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales "Bernardino Rivadavia"
Av. Angel Gallardo 470
C1405DJR – Buenos Aires, Argentina
Tel: 54-11-4982-8370,
Fax: 54-11-4982-4494
grismado@macn.gov.ar

Revista Ibérica de Aracnología

ISSN: 1576 - 9518.
Dep. Legal: Z-2656-2000.
Vol. 8, 31-XII-2003
Sección: Artículos y Notas.
Pp: 99 – 102

Edita:

Grupo Ibérico de Aracnología (GIA)

Grupo de trabajo en Aracnología de la Sociedad Entomológica Aragonesa (SEA)
Avda. Radio Juventud, 37
50012 Zaragoza (ESPAÑA)
Tef. 976 324415
Fax. 976 535697
C-elect.: amelic@telefonica.net
Director: A. Melic

Información sobre suscripción, índices, resúmenes de artículos *on line*, normas de publicación, etc. en:

Índice, resúmenes, abstracts vols. publicados:
<http://entomologia.rediris.es/sea/publicaciones/ria/index.htm>

Página web GIA:
<http://entomologia.rediris.es/gia>

Página web SEA:
<http://entomologia.rediris.es/sea>

DESCRIPTION OF *PIKELINIA USPALLATA* SP. N., FROM MENDOZA, ARGENTINA (ARANEAE, FILISTATIDAE)

Cristian J. Grismado

Abstract:

Pikelinia uspallata sp. n. (Araneae: Filistatidae: Prithinae), is described from Mendoza Province, Argentina. Genitalic features suggest a close relationship with the other high Andean species of western and northwestern Argentina. New records of *P. colloncuro* Ramírez & Grismado and *P. ticucho* Ramírez & Grismado are provided. Variability on the male clasping structures on second legs is reported for *P. ticucho*.

Key words: Araneae, Filistatidae, *Pikelinia*, new species, Argentina.

Taxonomy: *Pikelinia uspallata* sp. n.

Descripción de *Pikelinia uspallata* sp. n., de Mendoza, Argentina (Araneae, Filistatidae)

Resumen:

Pikelinia uspallata sp. n. (Araneae: Filistatidae: Prithinae) es descrita de la provincia de Mendoza, Argentina. Sus características genitales sugieren un cercano parentesco con las otras especies altoandinas del oeste y noroeste de Argentina. Se proporcionan nuevos registros para *P. colloncuro* Ramírez & Grismado y para *P. ticucho* Ramírez & Grismado. Se reporta variabilidad en las estructuras de traba de las segundas patas para *P. ticucho*.

Palabras clave: Araneae, Filistatidae, *Pikelinia*, nueva especie, Argentina.

Taxonomía: *Pikelinia uspallata* sp. n.

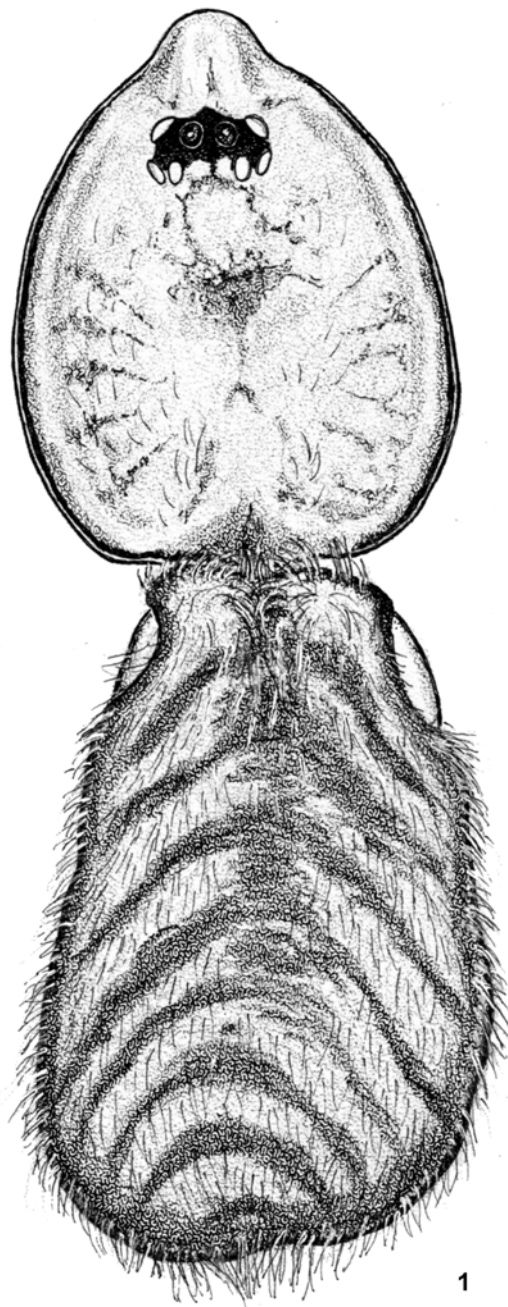
Introduction

The filistatids are sedentary cribellate spiders, worldwide distributed and with a rather uniform somatic morphology. This family represents one of the most basal branches of the Haplogynae (Platnick *et al.*, 1991). Gray (1994) revised the Australian species and, in a subsequent contribution (1995) presented a cladogram where two subfamilies were proposed: Filistatinae and Prithinae. Ramírez & Grismado (1997) revised the Argentinean fauna and reanalyzed Gray's data; after that study, three prithine genera are recognized from Argentina: *Pikelinia* Mello-Leitão 1946, *Lihuelistata* Ramírez & Grismado 1997, and *Misionella* Ramírez & Grismado 1997, all forming a monophyletic clade united by the strongly incrassate male palpal tibia and by the cymbium partially fused to tegulum (Ramírez & Grismado 1997: 327-329).

The males of *Pikelinia* are distinguished by having a dorsal retrolateral projection of the palpal tibia, and the second metatarsus and tarsus with clasping structures. The females by having two consecutive receptacles of spermathecae. These small-sized spiders make cribellate webs under stones or in crevices of the soil, rocks, walls of caves and/or leaf-litter; they are known from western South America, from Colombia to the Patagonia, including Galapagos Islands (Ramírez & Grismado, 1997: 331), principally in arid regions, although because their cryptic habits and small size, are relatively uncommon in collections.

In this contribution I describe a new species, *Pikelinia uspallata*, from Mendoza, Argentina, based on two female specimens found in an old jar of undetermined spiders stored in the Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales.

The females of this new species have an epigastric flap, a feature shared with *P. roigi* Ramírez & Grismado, from San Juan, *P. kolla* Ramírez & Grismado, from Jujuy and *P. puna* Ramírez & Grismado, from Salta (Ramírez & Grismado, 1997; figs. 59, 65, 76-77). Although no cladistic analysis was made within the genus, some relationships can be inferred. Besides the epigastric flap, males of *P. roigi* and *P. kolla* share a relatively elongated palpal tibia (Ramírez & Grismado, 1997; figs. 57-58, 63-64); given that this feature is not present in other *Pikelinia* and neither in *Lihuelistata* or *Misionella*, it could be interpreted as a synapomorphy of these two species. Then, it seems that *P. roigi*, *P. kolla*, *P. puna* and *P. uspallata*



Figs. 1. *Pikelinia uspallata* sp. n., female holotype; carapace and abdomen, dorsal view;

form a monophyletic subgeneric group restricted to the high Andes of western and northwestern Argentina. On the other hand, if the female epigastric flap is associated or correlated with the elongate palpal tibia, the unknown males of *P. puna* and *P. uspallata* probably also have an elongate tibia.

New records are provided for *P. colloncura* Ramírez & Grismado and *P. ticucho* Ramírez & Grismado. Additionally, some variability on the male

clasping structures on second legs is reported for *P. ticucho*.

Material and methods

Specimens are deposited in the Arachnological Collection of the Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales "Bernardino Rivadavia", Buenos Aires (MACN-Ar, Cristina L. Scioscia) and in the Cátedra de Diversidad Animal I, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales de la Universidad Nacional de Córdoba (UNC, Luis E. Acosta and Camilo I. Mattoni). The format of description follows Ramírez & Grismado (1997). Internal genitalia were cleared with cove oil. All measurements are expressed in millimeters.

Results

Pikelinia uspallata sp. n.

(Figs. 1-2)

TYPE MATERIAL: Female holotype and female paratype from Argentina, Mendoza Province, Uspallata, 20.X.1959, Capri leg. (MACN-Ar 10339 and 10340, respectively).

ETYMOLOGY: The specific name is a noun in apposition taken from the type locality.

DIAGNOSIS: By having a trilobate epigastric flap, females of *P. uspallata* resemble those of *P. roigi*, but differ by the abdominal chevroned pattern (Fig. 1), by the piriform and more separated proximal receptacles of spermathecae, and by the wider flap, with sharp, triangular lateral lobes (Fig. 2).

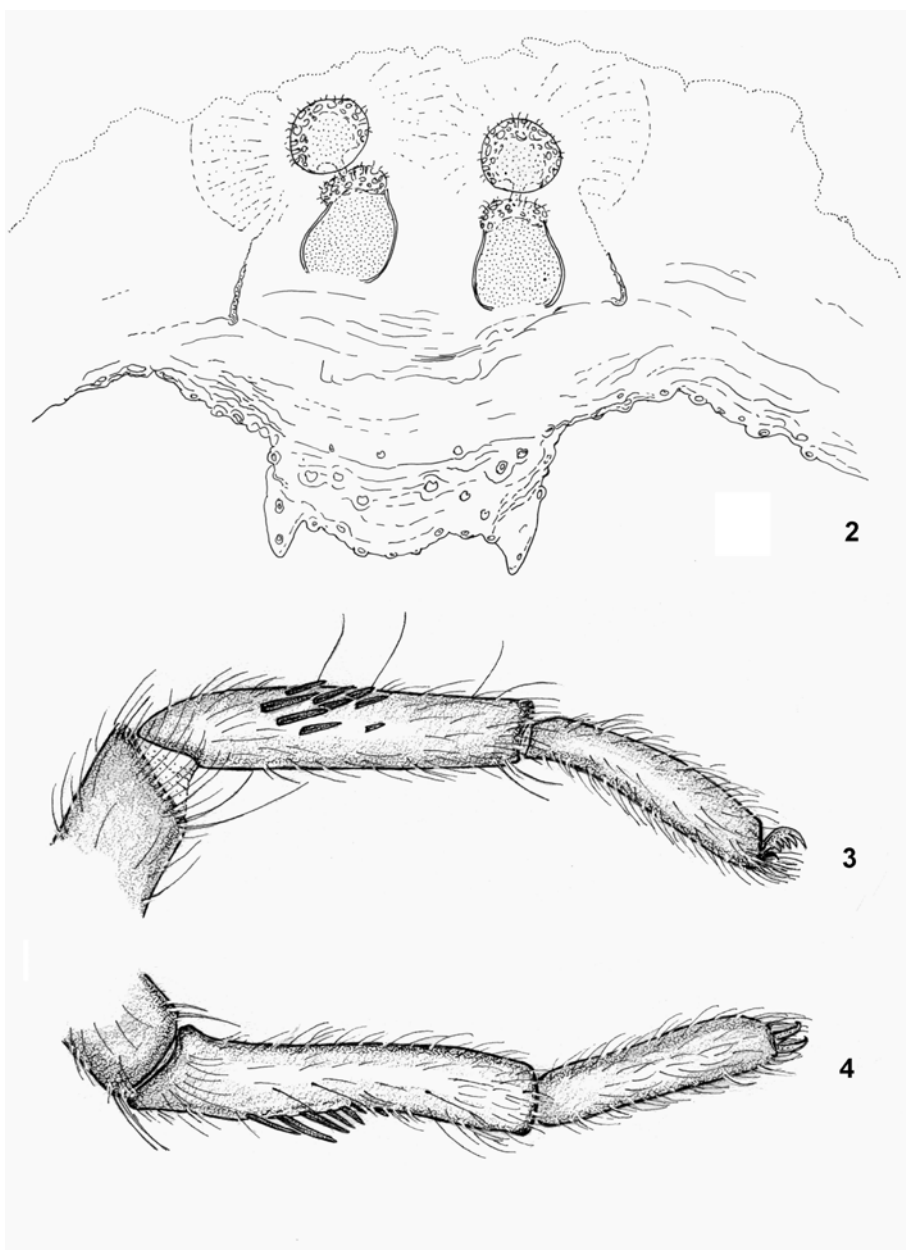
DESCRIPTION (female holotype): Total length 4.88. Carapace length 2.16, width 1.70. Posterior median eyes separated by more than two diameters. Palp, femur length 1.50, patella 0.58, tibia 0.92, tarsus 1.00. Legs, tibiae length/width I 3.28/0.26, II 1.92/0.26, III 1.58/0.28, IV 2.08/0.32; metatarsi length I 2.44, II 1.66, III 1.68, IV 2.08; tarsi length I 1.48, II 1.06, III 0.96, IV 1.04. Abdomen length 2.72. Spines: all metatarsi with 2 ventral apical; in addition, metatarsi I with 1 ventral prolateral. Palpi without spines.

Carapace pale yellowish-brown with tenuous dark radial design, margins with a dark line; ventrally pale yellowish brown, labium and endites turning to orange, margin of sternum with a thin brown line. Abdomen cream with distinct blackish "chevron" (Fig. 1), venter and legs yellowish-brown. Palps and legs yellowish, except palpal tarsi and metatarsi, orangish-brown.

Spermathecae with almost piriform proximal receptacles, separated by about their basal width. Wide epigastric flap with sharp triangular lateral lobes and broad, rounded median lobe (Fig. 2). All other characters are typical for the genus.

Males unknown.

DISTRIBUTION: Known only from the type locality.



Figs. 2. *Pikelinia uspillata* n. sp., female holotype; genitalia, cleared, dorsal view.

Figs. 3-4: *Pikelinia ticucho* Ramírez & Grismado, male from Chancaní, right leg II; **3.** retrolateral view; **4.** dorsal view.

***Pikelinia colloncuro* Ramírez & Grismado, 1997**

NEW RECORDS: Argentina: Río Negro Province, Bariloche, under bricks, 11.I.1998, M. J. Ramírez col., 1 male (MACN-Ar 10343); same data, 2 females, 1 male and 2 immatures (MACN-Ar 10344).

***Pikelinia ticucho* Ramírez & Grismado, 1997**
(Fig. 3-4)

NEW RECORDS: Argentina, Jujuy Province, Parque Nacional Calilegua, Aguas Negras, ravine of San Lorenzo river (approx. 1100 m), 5-7.VIII.1997, M. Ramírez and L. Compagnucci col., 1 male, 1 female (MACN-Ar 10341); same data, 1 male, 1 female, 1 immature (MACN-Ar 10342). Córdoba Province,

Parque Provincial y Reserva Forestal Chancaní, pitfall traps (1-50) in "picada central", 19.IX.1993-23.X.1993, C. Mattoni col., 2 males (UNC).

NOTE: The two males from Córdoba, although identical to other conspecific males by the genital and general somatic morphology, have striking differences on the legs II (Fig. 3-4). All the articles are relatively shorter, the tarsus is unmodified, and the metatarsus has a shallow retrolateral excavated area with short spinules that gradually increase their length proximally, similar to the disposition known in *Misionella* (Ramírez & Grismado 1997: figs. 97-98; Grismado & Ramírez 2000: figs. 1-2). All other known *Pikelinia* have the metatarsus II with two strong retrolateral spines follo-

wed by an excavated area with a patch of dorsal spinules, and the tarsus has a basal retrolateral excavation. This is the first report on such variability in these characters. Interestingly, *P. ticucho* is the only species of the genus known from a relatively large geographic range (Provinces of Salta, Jujuy, Tucumán, Catamarca and Córdoba).

Acknowledgments

I am greatly indebted to the institutions and curators for loaning the specimens. I also thank to Martín J. Ramírez and an anonymous reviewer for helpful comments on a draft of the manuscript.

Bibliography

- GRAY, M. R. 1994. A review of filistatid spiders (Araneae: Filistatidae) of Australia. *Records of Australian Museum*, **461**: 39-61.
- GRAY, M. R. 1995. Morphology and relationships within the spider family Filistatidae (Araneae: Araneomorphae). *Records of Western Australian Museum*, **52**: 79-89.
- GRISMADO, C. J. & M. J. RAMÍREZ 2000. Notes on the spider genus *Misionella* with a description of a new species from Brazil (Araneae: Filistatidae). *Studies on Neotropical Fauna & Environment*, **35**: 161-163.
- PLATNICK, N. I., J. A. CODDINGTON, R. R. FORSTER & C. E. GRISWOLD 1991. Spinneret morphology and the phylogeny of haplogyne spiders (Araneae, Araneomorphae). *American Museum Novitates*, **3016**: 73 pp.
- RAMÍREZ, M. J. & C. J. GRISMADO 1997. A review of the spider family Filistatidae in Argentina (Arachnida: Araneae) with a cladistic reanalysis of filistatid genera. *Entomologica Scandinavica*, **28**: 319-349.