

Griswold, C. E. 1987. A Revision of the Jumping Spider Genus *Habronattus* F. O. P.-Cambridge (Araneae: Salticidae), with Phenetic and Cladistic Analyses. University of California Publications in Entomology 107, ix + 344 pp. (price \$34.00). Available from University of California Press, 2120 Berkeley, California 94720, USA.

This is the first major revision published of a predominantly North American salticid genus to appear since the Peckhams' works of the late 1800's and early 1900's. Three-quarters of a century is far too long to wait; the simple structure of the genitalia being the main deterrent to taxonomic work in the family. Fortunately, Griswold's monograph shows what can be done within these constraints. It comes at an appropriate time with the rise of interest in salticid biology, especially in behavioral studies. This paper is a significant contribution to salticid taxonomy on several levels.

Habronattus is the largest primarily North American jumping spider genus, comprising 94 species in nine species groups, and a number of species unplaced as to group. It is, along with *Phidippus*, the genus that contains some of the most flamboyant males and the most strikingly sexually dimorphic species. Because of the very similar genitalia in many of the species, reliance is placed on somatic characters to an unusual extent to define species and in the key. That he has been

successful in this approach is in part due to his exhaustive character search; 172 were studied! The key is for males only and works well. As in any long key, there are numerous opportunities to go astray; read *both* parts of the couplet before you make your choice. In couplet 1 the first part leads to couplet 2, *not 12* as written. Couplet 52 will probably appear puzzling because the first line of the second part has been accidentally omitted. It most likely reads: "Tibia I with anteroventral spines. . . ." Females are not keyed and some males and females are not illustrated. To determine females one must resort to the Peckhams' 1909 revision in conjunction with this monograph. The range maps provide clues in sorting out possible choices. It would have been helpful to have more illustrations, particularly in regard to females and to some inadequately illustrated males.

Griswold's setting of *Habronattus* in relation to the other salticid genera, and to *Pellenes* in particular, is felicitous. He has done an excellent analysis of this vexatious complex of genera. Also worthy of note is his discussion of apomorphic and plesiomorphic character states.

There are several minor misspellings, none of which are confusing. *Maevia* has been sporadically misspelled as *Meavia* in several places; sometimes both spellings occur on the same page. One important omission is the lack of a species index; I constructed my own, which saves much page flipping. Despite the minor shortcomings, this is a major contribution and one that I will refer to for many years, not only for identification, but for the methodology and approach to taxonomic problems.

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