

RESEARCH NOTES

A NEW *OTIOTHOPS* FROM COLOMBIA (ARANEAE, PALPIMANIDAE)

Through the courtesy of Mr. John A. Kochalka of the University of Vermont, I have recently had the opportunity to examine specimens of a new species of the *oblongus* group of *Otiothops* from the foothills of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, Colombia. Only three members of the *oblongus* group were previously known: *O. oblongus* Simon from Venezuela, Trinidad, and Guyana, *O. intortus* Platnick from Trinidad, and *O. whitticki* Mello-Leitao from Guyana and now newly recorded from Surinam (Benzdorp, Lawa River, Marowijne District, 6 November 1963, B. Malkin, one male in the American Museum of Natural History). The new species is the first known American palpimanid possessing a modified cymbium (Fig. 1). The illustrations are by Dr. Mohammad U. Shadab.

Otiothops kochalkai, new species

Types.—Male holotype and female paratype from disturbed semideciduous forest between San Pablo and San Pedro, Magdalena, Colombia (male, elevation 1000 feet, 4 February 1974; female, elevation 2200 feet, 3 February 1974; J. A. Kochalka), deposited in the American Museum of Natural History.

Etymology.—The specific name is a patronym in honor of the collector of the type specimens.

Diagnosis.—*Otiothops kochalkai* may be easily distinguished from the other known American palpimanids by the prolaterally bent tip of the cymbium (Fig. 1) and anteriorly expanded spermathecae (Fig. 2).

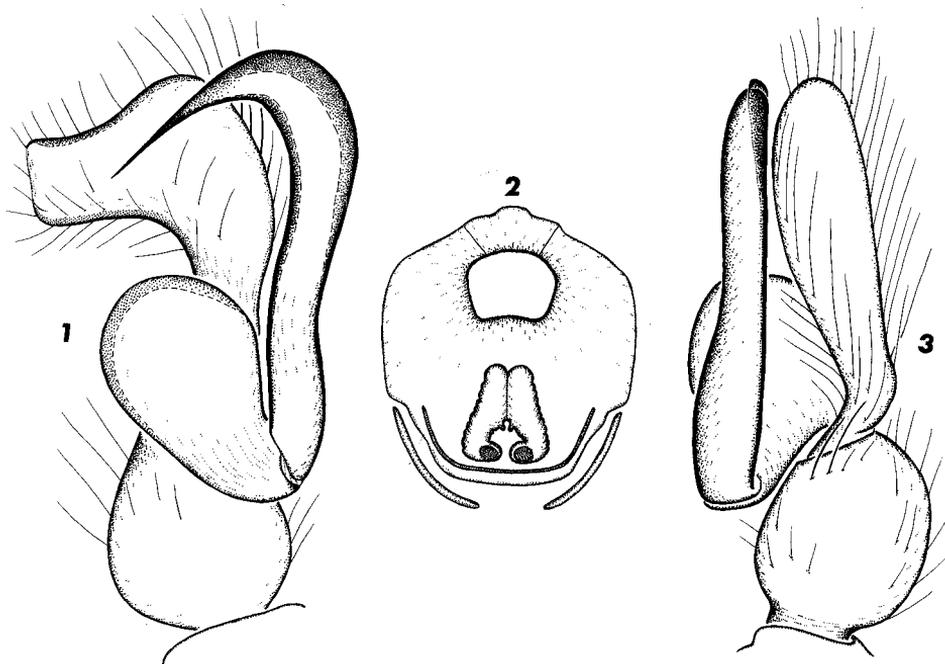
Male.—Total length 3.67 mm. Carapace 1.65 mm long, 1.19 mm wide. Femur I 1.08 mm long, 0.48 mm high (holotype). Cephalic area sharply elevated. Posterior median eyes contiguous. Embolus situated retrolaterally, bent prolaterally at tip, with thin distal flange; cymbium sinuous, bent prolaterally at tip (Figs. 1, 3).

Female.—Total length 7.38 mm. Carapace 3.35 mm long, 2.45 mm wide. Femur I 2.38 mm long, 1.06 mm high (paratype). Cephalic area sharply elevated. Posterior median eyes separated by slightly less than half their diameter. Abdominal scutum with two posterior paramedian sclerotized strips; spermathecae much wider anteriorly than posteriorly (Fig. 2).

Material Examined.—Only the types.

NOMENCLATURE

I have recently noted that the family-group name Otiothopoidae, established by Thorell in 1869 in a one sentence statement in his volume "On European Spiders" (p. 43), antedates both my own subfamily name Otiothopinae and the family name



Figs. 1-3.—*Otiotrops kochalkai*, new species: 1, palp, ventral view; 2, vulva, dorsal view; 3, palp, retrolateral view.

Palpimanidae. As Thorell's name has never been used, it should presumably be suppressed under Article 79b of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature. **Norman I. Platnick**, Department of Entomology, The American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th Street, New York, New York 10024.