

REPLACEMENT NAMES FOR TWO ORB-WEAVING SPIDERS (ARANEAE, ARANEIDAE, *ARANEUS*)

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ABSTRACT. The name *Araneus beebei* Levi 1941 is replaced by *Araneus aragua*. *Araneus raii* Levi 1973 is replaced by *Araneus missouri*. The species *Araneus phrygiatus* (Walckenaer 1842) is not recognizable based on the original description and considered a nomen dubium.

Keywords: Nearctic, Neotropical, *beebei*, *aragua*, *raii*, *missouri*

Recent catalogs of spider species names (e.g., Platnick 2007) have made me aware of errors in my naming of two species. *Araneus raii* Levi 1973 is preoccupied by *A. raii* (Strand 1907) for a species from Cameroon and *Araneus beebei* Levi 1991 was previously used by Petrunkevitch 1914 for a species from Borneo. Replacement names are needed:

Araneus raii Levi 1973 [junior secondary homonym of *A. raii* (Strand 1907)], from Missouri, USA = *Araneus missouri* NEW NAME

Araneus beebei Levi 1991 (junior primary homonym of *Araneus beebei* Petrunkevitch 1914), from Aragua State, Venezuela = *Araneus aragua* NEW NAME

Both new names are nouns in apposition after localities.

Platnick (2007) also made me aware of the omission of *Araneus phrygiatus* (Walckenaer 1842) from my revisions of American araneid spiders. The species was cited by Chamberlin & Ivie (1944), with an illustration from a manuscript by Abbot (1792) to which Walckenaer (1842) gave names. Unfortunately I found *A. phrygiatus* to be unrecognizable based on the original description. It was described from Georgia, United States, and is 5 lines (ca. 12 mm) long. The illustration shows an anterior median longitudinal black mark on the abdomen and a broken median longitudinal black line, marks not common in araneids and especially not in species of this size.

Epeira phrygiata Walckenaer 1842, is therefore considered a nomen dubium.

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