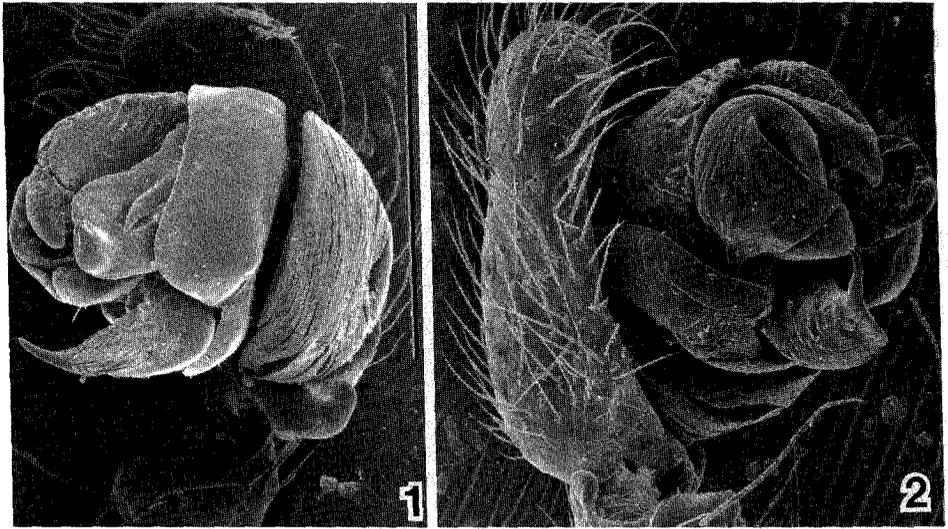


DESCRIPTION OF THE MALE OF *ARANEUS COCHISE* (ARANEAE, ARANEIDAE)

Levi (1973) described *Araneus cochise* from a single female collected at the Southwestern Research Station in the Chiricahua Mountains of Arizona. The species was placed in the *Araneus sturmi* group. The *A. pegnia* and *A. sturmi* groups include most of the small species of *Araneus*. Recently *A. cochise* was recorded from Texas (Agnew et al. 1985) based on some females swept from *Juniperus ashei* Buchholz near Stephenville in 1982. More extensive collecting the following spring yielded a larger series including males of *Araneus cochise* which are described here for the first time.

The collection area consists of *J. ashei* and other shrubs in a landscape of rocky hillsides. This habitat is located in the western section of the Cross Timbers region of Texas (elevation = 399 m). The region grades from open grass savannah



Figures 1, 2.—*Araneus cochise* left palp: 1, ventral view; 2, mesal view. Scale = 0.5 mm.

to dense brush of post oak (*Quercus stellata* Wangenheim) and blackjack oak (*Quercus marilandica* Muenchhausen).

Araneus cochise Levi

Figs. 1, 2

Araneus cochise Levi, 1973, p. 497, figs. 55-59, map 2 (female holotype from Cochise County, Arizona, in American Museum of Natural History).

Diagnosis.—The male of *A. cochise* keys to *A. mariposa* Levi because the conductor has a notch and tooth on the middle of the lateral side but differs from the latter in that the median apophysis is more curved (Figs. 1, 2). A black stripe extends from the middle anterior portion of the abdomen posteriorly to the humps and branches outward to the folium which is more distinct than in other *Araneus*. Markings in the female are similar to those of the male.

Description (Male).—The carapace and abdomen are similar to the female except that the black longitudinal stripe on the anterior part of the abdomen is more pronounced. Measurements of 15 specimens (mm): Total length (\bar{x} = 2.87, range = 2.5-3.3, SE = 0.05); carapace length (\bar{x} = 1.58, range = 1.5-1.7, SE = 0.01), width (\bar{x} = 1.41, range = 1.4-1.5, SE = 0.01); first femur (\bar{x} = 1.74, range = 1.6-2.1, SE = 0.03); patella and tibia (\bar{x} = 1.97, range = 1.9-2.1, SE = 0.02); metatarsus (\bar{x} = 1.33, range = 1.2-1.6, SE = 0.03); tarsus (\bar{x} = 0.61, range = 0.6-0.7, SE = 0.01). Second patella and tibia (\bar{x} = 1.76, range = 1.6-1.9, SE = 0.02); third (\bar{x} = 0.97, range = 0.9-1.0, SE = 0.01); fourth (\bar{x} = 1.31, range = 1.2-1.4, SE = 0.02).

Description (Female).—Measurements of 33 specimens (mm): Total length (\bar{x} = 3.59, range = 2.8-4.3, SE = 0.06); carapace length (\bar{x} = 1.56, range = 1.4-1.7, SE = 0.01), width (\bar{x} = 1.36, range = 1.3-1.5, SE = 0.01); first femur (\bar{x} = 1.54, range = 1.4-1.7, SE = 0.01); patella and tibia (\bar{x} = 1.75, range = 1.6-2.0, SE = 0.02); metatarsus (\bar{x} = 1.02, range = 1.0-1.1, SE = 0.01); tarsus (\bar{x} = 0.52, range = 0.5-0.6, SE = 0.01). Second patella and tibia (\bar{x} = 1.51, range = 1.4-1.7, SE = 0.01); third

(\bar{x} = 0.92, range = 0.9-1.0, SE = 0.01); fourth (\bar{x} = 1.29, range = 1.2-1.4, SE = 0.01).

Record.—TEXAS; *Erath Co.*, 11 km NE of Stephenville (C. W. Agnew, American Museum of Natural History, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Texas A&M University).

Note.—Males and females were first collected on 11 April. Males were last collected on 16 May and females occurred until 10 June. One egg sac was found and 7 spiderlings emerged.

We thank H. W. Levi, J. A. Beatty, and H. R. Burke for reviewing the manuscript.

LITERATURE CITED

- Agnew, C. W., D. A. Dean and J. W. Smith, Jr. 1985. Spiders collected from peanuts and non-agricultural habitats in the Texas west cross-timbers. *Southwest. Nat.*, 30:1-12.
- Levi, H. W. 1973. Small orb-weavers of the genus *Araneus* north of Mexico (Araneae: Araneidae). *Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool.*, 145:473-552.

D. A. Dean, C. W. Agnew and R. G. Breene, Department of Entomology, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843 USA.

Manuscript received August 1988, revised October 1988.