June 2000, FS. 45, PJ 2147, coll. M. Janssen). The specimen was caught in a nature reserve with a pitfall trap, which was placed at the entrance of a rabbit hole on a sand dune, partly overgrown with *Calluna* heath and *Deschampsia* spp. grass. Together with this single female the following species were also recorded: *Zelotes petrensis, Zora spinimana, Atypus affinis, Trochosa terricola, Pardosa lugubris, Xerolycosa nemoralis, Tegenaria agrestis, Tegenaria atrica, Walckenaeria atrotibialis*. This specimen was identified as belonging to the genus *Cerbalus* Simon, 1897.

At present seven *Cerbalus* species are known from northern Africa, Canary Islands and Israel. The female found in Belgium could not be assigned to one of the known species, but its genitalia closely resemble those of *C. psammodes* Levy, 1989 from Israel. However, females of the following species are unknown: *C. alegranzaensis* Wunderlich, 1992 (Canary Is.), *C. ergensis* Jäger, 2000 (Tunisia) and *C. pellitus* Kritscher, 1960 (Egypt).

Initial points of introduction for spiders are rarely documented, but known for *Holocnemus pluchei* (Scopoli, 1763) (Jäger, 1995, 2000) and *Zimiris doriai* Simon, 1882 (Jäger, submitted), both found in Cologne. Whilst in these two cases, populations have either established (*H. pluchei*) or are likely to be able to do so, as reported from other countries (*Z. doriai*; Platnick & Penney, 2004), it seems unlikely that the *Olios* and *Cerbalus* presented here have done so, as only singletons were found. Without doubt, *H. venatoria* is the front-runner and has become established as the only tropical sparassid in various countries in zoos and greenhouses (e.g. Jäger, 2000).

The introduction routes for the two species reported in this article are unknown. However, the *Olios* specimen is likely to have been shipped with cargo from Asia to import halls in London, whereas the route taken by the Belgium *Cerbalus* is difficult to speculate on.

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Forschungsinstitut Senckenberg, Senckenberganlage 25, D-60325 FRANKFURT AM MAIN;
e-mail: Peter.Jaeger@Senckenberg.de

Saitis lusitanicus Simon, 1901 is a junior synonym of '*Euophrys*' *difficilis* (Simon, 1868) (Araneae: Salticidae)

by Dmitri V. Logunov

Mediterranean Salticidae, particularly from the western region, have been poorly studied. Taxonomic notes and the synonymy of two little-known salticid species are provided herein. The material studied was borrowed from the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France (MNHN; curator: Dr C. Rollard). I wish to thank Dr C. Rollard for access to the collections, Dr T. Kronestedt (Stockholm, Sweden) for help with obtaining E. Simon's original descriptions and Dr D. Penney (Manchester, UK) for his kind linguistic help.

'*Euophrys*' *difficilis* (Simon, 1868)

Figs. 1–5

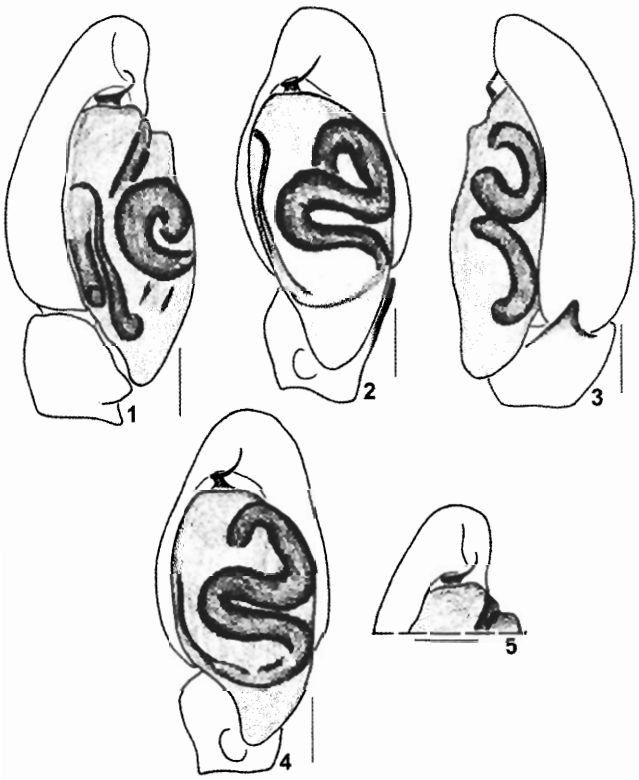
Attus difficilis Simon 1868: 590 (D♂♀; in the MNHN; ♂ syntype, examined).

Saitis lusitanicus Simon, 1901: 67 (D♂; in the MNHN; examined). **New Synonymy**.

For a complete reference list see Platnick (2004) and Prószyński (2003).

Material examined: COUNTRY (?): 1♂ (MNHN, 847; the lectotype of *Attus difficilis*; designated here), "Cr. Sic. Dalm." [apparently Croatia, Sicily and Dalmatia; at least the two last names are mentioned in Simon (1937: p. 1252) and "Sicile" is mentioned in the original description (Simon, 1868: p. 591)]. – PORTUGAL: 1♂ (MNHN, 13676; the holotype of *Saitis lusitanicus*), "Porto (Seg)".

Comments: According to the original description of *Attus difficilis* (Simon, 1868: p. 590–591), both sexes were described. However, I was only able to re-examine the single male syntype (Figs. 1–3) kept in the MNHN. As Simon (1968, 1937) mentioned at least five different localities for this species, it means several/numerous specimens were available to him, but unfortunately it remains unclear whether all of them were indeed conspecific. Moreover, in his last work of 1937 (p. 1179), Simon stated clearly that the female of *Euophrys difficilis* was unknown ("♀ inconnue"). This provides additional support for the idea that the original series of *Attus difficilis* may not have been conspecific. The only taxonomic



Figs. 1–5: The male palps of '*Euophrys*' *difficilis* (Simon, 1868): 1–3 the holotype of *Attus difficilis* Simon, 1868; 4–5 the holotype of *Saitis lusitanicus* Simon, 1901. 1 prolateral view; 2, 4 ventral view; 3 retrolateral view; 5 embolar division, prolateral view. Scale lines = 0.1 mm.

information about the apparent female of *Attus difficilis* was provided by Simon (1868: p. 591) who wrote that the female is close to *Attus erraticus* (now in *Pseudeuophrys*); however, Simon did not illustrate it. All the subsequent references to the female of this species seem to be erroneous. As recently shown by Metzner (1999: p. 53), the female assigned to *E. difficilis* by Schenkel (1938) in reality belongs to '*Euophrys*' *semiglabrata*, whereas the female referred to by Roewer (1954) as *Pseudeuophrys difficilis* is actually that of *Saitis sengleti*.

Therefore, it is highly likely that the male of *Attus difficilis* studied here is the only specimen still in existence which was actually examined by Simon. Thus, to stabilize the taxonomic status of *Attus difficilis* I have designated the re-examined male as the lectotype.

The male holotype of *Saitis lusitanicus* Simon, 1901 is identical to the lectotype of *Attus difficilis* (cf. Figs. 4–5 and 1–3) and therefore the former species name is synonymised with the latter.

With regards to a generic status of *Attus difficilis*, it should be noted that my former opinion regarding its assignment to *Chalcoscirtus* (see Logunov, 1998) should be disregarded. The males studied have the cheliceral retromargin with one tooth and the promargin with two close (almost fused) teeth, but the first legs of the male do not possess dense fringes of blackish, flattened hairs (the very common, even universal character in true *Euophrys*) and also there is no long, thin tibial apophysis (always present in *Euophrys*). Thus, although *Attus difficilis* cannot be assigned to true *Euophrys*, it can be confirmed that it does not belong to *Chalcoscirtus* (the species is twice the size of the largest *Chalcoscirtus* species known to me and it does not have a shiny scutum; it has a different carapace shape; the clypeus is well-marked, etc.). However, at present I see no reason to consider *Attus difficilis* in the genus *Pseudeuophrys*. This idea was accepted by Metzner (1999) reasoning from the fact that Simon (1937: p. 1252) placed this species in the *erratica* species group, of which most members were subsequently assigned to *Pseudeuophrys*. A final solution concerning the correct generic assignment of '*Euophrys*' *difficilis* is postponed until more material, including females, has been collected.

Distribution: Though Simon (1868, 1937) mentioned at least five localities for this species, viz. France (Corsica), Italy (Naples, Sicily), Dalmatia and Greece, the exact origin of the lectotype remains unknown. I can only suspect that it may have been either Corsica or Sicily. Thus, to date the only reliable record of *Attus difficilis* is Portugal (Porto) where is has been reported under the name *Saitis lusitanicus* (Simon, 1901; Cardoso, 2000).

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The Manchester Museum, Oxford Road, MANCHESTER, M13 9PL, UK; e-mail: dmitri.v.logunov@manchester.ac.uk