20TH EUROPEAN COLLOQUIUM OF ARACHNOLOGY



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In Memoriam Imre Loksa

Diversity of the ultrastructural characters and variation of the copulatory organs in *Aelurillus v-insignitus* (Clerck, 1758) (Araneae, Salticidae)

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The jumping spider, Aelurillus v-insignitus, the type species of Aelurillus and the subfamily Aelurillinae, has a trans-Eurasian range. Some somatic characters of males taken from the Finnish population (viz. body skin, scales of carapace, abdomen, leg I and palps) have been studied with SEM. Particular emphasis has been placed on the shape of scales of different colour, which are shown to be of different structure. Furthermore, it was found that scales of the same colour might also be of different structure. Some types of scales are attached to cuticle less firmly than other. The embolus A. v-insignitus is complicated and consists of two parts (the embolus sensu stricto and the terminal apophysis) fused by the embolic membrane. The embolar structure of specimens from different populations (Scandinavia, Crimea, West Siberia) demonstrates a clear variation of unclear status. Judging from these variations, one might assume that somatically identical populations may belong to three different species.

NOTES

ABSTRACTS 21