

Zeitschrift: Contributions to Natural History : Scientific Papers from the Natural History Museum Bern

Herausgeber: Naturhistorisches Museum Bern

Band: - (2009)

Heft: 12/3

Artikel: New species of jumping spiders from South Africa (Araneae: Salticidae)

Autor: Wesolowska, Wanda

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-787033>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 04.08.2025

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

New species of jumping spiders from South Africa (Araneae: Salticidae)

Wanda Wesołowska

ABSTRACT

Contrib. Nat. Hist. 12: 1409–1413.

Descriptions of two new species of African salticids, *Heliophanus thaleri* sp. nov. and *Rhene konradi* sp. nov. are given.

Key words: Arachnology, Araneae, Salticidae, *Heliophanus*, *Rhene*, new species, Afro-tropical Region.

Introduction

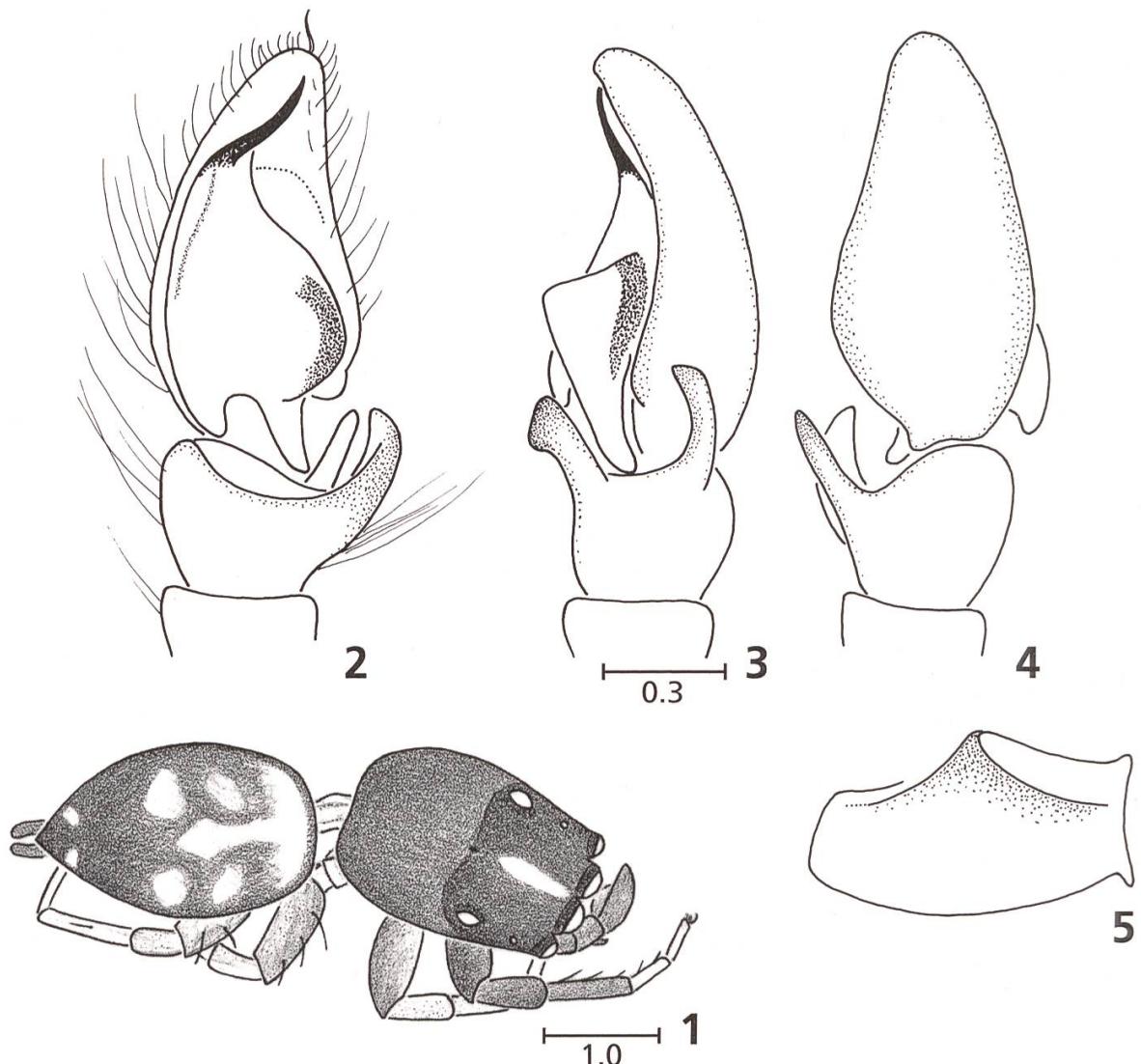
Jumping spiders of southern Africa were first extensively explored by Peckham & Peckham (1902, 1903). In recent decades, studies of many authors followed. Despite the intensification of work, the salticids of this part of Africa are still poorly known. Contributing to the knowledge of this area, I describe here two new salticids from Free State Province.

Taxonomy

***Heliophanus thaleri* sp. nov. (Figs. 1–5)**

Holotype, male, South Africa, Free State Province, Sandveld Nature Reserve, 22. IX. 2003, leg. C. Haddad, National Collection of Arachnida, ARC-Plant Protection Research Institute, Pretoria, Republic of South Africa.

Diagnosis: The species resembles *Heliophanus claviger* SIMON, 1901 from South Africa, but can be distinguished by the distinctly longer embolus and



Figs. 1–5. *Heliophanus thaleri* sp. nov., holotype. – 1: General appearance; – 2: Palpal organ in ventral view; – 3: Same in lateral view; – 4: Same in dorsal view; – 5: Palpal femur. Scale in mm.

the shape of the tibial apophysis, which is narrower (compare Figs. 2–4 herein with figs. 54–57 in Wesołowska 1986).

Etymology: The species is dedicated to the late Prof. Konrad Thaler, the prominent specialist of spiders and expert for the alpine fauna.

Description:

Measurements (in mm): Carapace length 2.3, width 1.6, height 1.0. Abdomen length 2.5, width 1.6. Eye field length 1.0, anterior width 1.3, posterior width 1.4.

Male. General appearance as in Fig. 1. Carapace ovoid, medium high with prominent flat area extending half way along the thorax and steeply inclined posterior thoracic slope. Thoracic area dark brown, eye field black with metallic lustre. Dorsal surface of carapace covered with delicate, thin, dark hairs, longer and denser in vicinity of eyes, within eye field a median light streak

composed of white hairs. Reddish fawn scales surround anterior eyes and form small tufts between them. Clypeus very low. Chelicerae unidentate, labium and sternum dark brown, gnathocoxae with lighter inner margins. Abdomen oval, dark brown, clothed in dark shining hairs, long brown bristles at anterior margin of abdomen. White hairs on dorsal surface form a pattern consisting of a large T-shaped patch and three pairs of rounded spots, the one at the end of abdomen smallest (Fig. 1). Venter brown, lighter than dorsum. Spinnerets brownish. First leg dark brown, remaining pairs light brown with darker femora. Leg hairs and spines brown. Pedipalps dark brown. Bulb triangular with two prominent posterior lobes, embolus short (Fig. 2), two long tibial apophyses, the ventral one wider (Fig. 3). Palpal femur with big process on ventral surface (Fig. 5).

Female unknown.

Affinities: This species belongs to the subgenus *Heliocapensis* WESOŁOWSKA, 1986.

***Rhene konradi* sp. nov. (Figs. 6–8)**

Holotype, female, South Africa, Free State Province, Tussen-die-Riviere Nature Reserve, III. 2001, leg. C. Haddad, National Collection of Arachnida, ARC-Plant Protection Research Institute, Pretoria, Republic of South Africa.

Paratypes: together with holotype, 1 female, NCA, Pretoria; together with holotype, 1 female, Musée Royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren, Belgium.

Diagnosis: The species is similar to *Rhene formosa* ROLLARD & WESOŁOWSKA, 2002 from West Africa, but may be recognized by the form of the epigyne; the new species possesses two epigynal depressions separated by a median elevated septum, while *R. formosa* has a single large depression (compare Fig. 7 herein with fig. 16 B in Rollard & Wesołowska 2002). The presence of accessory glands is distinctive too.

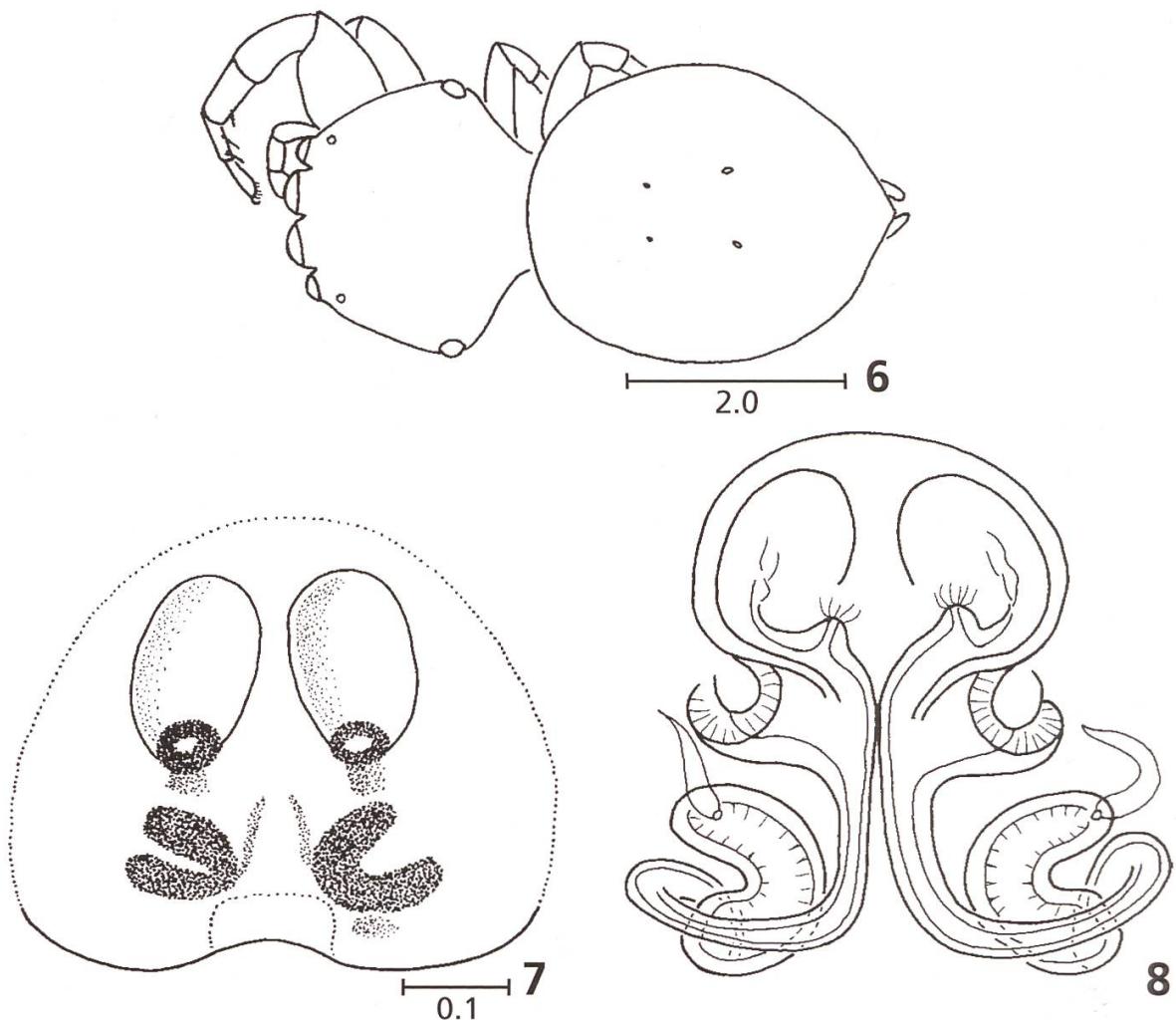
Etymology: The species is named in honour of Konrad Thaler.

Description:

Measurements (in mm): Carapace length 1.3–1.5, width 1.6–1.7, height 0.6–0.7. Abdomen length 1.9–2.3, width 1.7–1.9. Eye field length 0.8–1.0, anterior width 0.9–1.0, posterior width 1.6–1.7.

Male unknown.

Female. Shape of body as in Fig. 6. Small, robust, flattened spider. Carapace wider than long, with very large trapeziform eye field occupying two



Figs. 6–8. *Rhene konradi* sp. nov., paratype. – 6: General appearance; – 7: Epigyne; – 8: Internal structure of epigyne, dorsal view. Scale in mm.

thirds of its length. Second row of eyes near first one. Posterior part of carapace flattened, covered by anterior part of abdomen. Carapace dark brown, clothed in dense greyish hairs, some long thin bristles in vicinity of eyes, small patches formed by grey hairs between eyes of front row. Clypeus very low, covered with light hairs extending on lateral margins of carapace. Chelicerae dark brown, unidentate. Labium and sternum dark brown, gnathocoxae brown with light margins. Abdomen rounded, wider than carapace, with readily visible sigilla, dark brown, almost without hairs. Venter lighter than dorsum. Spinnerets brownish. Legs short, first pair slightly longer and thicker than remaining, dark brown. One pair of thick spines on tibia I ventrally, two pairs on metatarsus. Remaining legs light brown with darker distal parts of segments, tarsi orange. Leg hairs thin, brown. Epigyne large, strongly sclerotized, with broad pocket at epigastric fold and two oval shallow depressions anteriorly (Fig. 7), plugged with waxy secretion. Copulatory openings hidden in entrance cavities, seminal ducts long and thin, receptacles large, accessory glands fall into initial part of seminal ducts, at entrance cavities (Fig. 8).

References

- Rollard, C. & Wesołowska, W. (2002): Jumping spiders (Araneae, Salticidae) from the Nimba Mountains, Guinea. — *Zoosystema* 24(2): 283–307.
- Wesołowska, W. (1986): A revision of the spider genus *Heliophanus* C. L. Koch, 1833 (Aranei: Salticidae). — *Annales zoologici (Warszawa)* 40 (1): 1–254.
- Peckham, G.W. & Peckham, E.G. (1902): Some New Genera and Species of *Attidae* from South Africa. — *Psyche* 9: 330–335.
- Peckham, G.W. & Peckham, E.G. (1903): New species of the family *Attidae* from South Africa, with notes on the distribution of the genera found in the Ethiopian region. — *Transactions of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters* 14: 173–278.

Address of the author:

Dr. Wanda Wesołowska
Zoological Institute, Wrocław University, Sienkiewicza 21
50-335 Wrocław, Poland

E-mail: tomwes@biol.uni.wroc.pl

