

A new genus and species of theraphosid spider from Sarawak, Borneo (Araneae: Theraphosidae)

Ray Gabriel & Danniella Sherwood*, *Hope Entomological Collections, Oxford University Museum of Natural History, Parks Road, Oxford, Oxon, OX1 3PW.*

* Corresponding author: danni.sherwood@hotmail.com

Abstract

A new genus and species of the subfamily Selenocosmiinae Simon, 1892 are described from Sarawak, Borneo: *Birupes simoraxigorum* gen. et sp. nov. with discussion on the use of palpal bulb, spermathecae and stridulatory organ morphology in selenocosmiine systematics.

Introduction

The subfamily Selenocosmiinae Simon, 1892 currently contains eleven genera distributed throughout the vast majority of Asian countries: *Chilobrachys* Karsch, 1891; *Coremiocnemis* Simon, 1892; *Haplocosmia* Schmidt and von Wirth, 1996; *Lyrognathus* Pocock, 1895; *Orphnaeus* Simon, 1892; *Phlogiellus* Pocock, 1897; *Poecilotheria* Simon, 1885; *Pseudocnemis* West, Nunn and Hogg, 2012; *Selenocosmia* Ausserer, 1871; *Selenotholus* Hogg, 1902 and *Selenotypus* Pocock, 1895. On the island of Borneo five of these genera are currently recorded, namely: *Coremiocnemis*, *Lyrognathus*, *Phlogiellus*, *Pseudocnemis* and *Selenocosmia*.

Originally described as *Mygale javanensis* Walckenaer, 1837 from Java, the original description of *S. javanensis* does not feature any illustrations. Walckenaer (1837: 216) diagnosed the species on eye morphology noting the arrangement of the eyes was similar to “*Mygale Le Blondi*” [= *Theraphosa blondi* (Latreille, 1804)]. One year later Koch (1838: 14) described *Mygale monstrosa* Koch, 1838 also allegedly from Java describing the colouration as coffee brown. Koch subsequently sought to redescribe *S. javanensis* in Koch (1842) but the

description and illustration do not match any possible Selenocosmiine, rather bearing a strong resemblance to members of the genus *Theraphosa* Thorell, 1870. This is likely why Koch (1850) groups *S. javanensis* and *T. blondi* together in *Mygale* while he considered *M. monstrosa* better placed in the genus *Eurypelma* Koch, 1842. But this misidentification was to be noted later by Ausserer (1871).

Doleschall (1859) regarded *S. javanensis* as a brown spider, giving the distribution as Buitenzorg in Java and Manado on Celebes [= Sulawesi] also illustrating a specimen in a plate amongst other spiders. It is unclear whether the specimen illustrated in Doleschall (1859) is from Java or Sulawesi however and, if the illustrated specimen was from Sulawesi, it is likely it was not conspecific to *S. javanensis*.

Ausserer (1871) noted the male of *S. javanensis* was undescribed as the specimen figured in Koch (1842) was clearly not conspecific. Ausserer (1871) synonymised *E. monstrosa* with *S. javanensis* and also considered the specimen mentioned in Doleschall (1859) to be conspecific. In the same work Ausserer describes a specimen collected by Doleschall from Amboina, Java [= Ambon Island, Indonesia] but this location is far from the present day Java [closer to New Guinea than to Java] and thus its identification is questionable. Thorell (1890) described the subspecies *S. javanensis sumatrana* Thorell, 1890 from Sumatra differentiating it from related taxa by leg spination and metatarsal scopulation.

Simon (1903) notes that *S. javanensis* has undivided tarsal scopulae unlike some other species he considered placed in the genus *Selenocosmia* and illustrates the stridulatory organ. The exact provenance of the specimen is not known as Simon does not mention any locality or collector for the specimen in his work.

Whilst some selenocosmiine genera have been treated in modern taxonomic works (e.g. West and Nunn, 2010; West, Nunn and Hogg, 2012; Nunn, West and von Wirth, 2016) many still have not been revised in a modern context least not the type genus *Selenocosmia*. The present composition of *Selenocosmia* is highly irregular with a disjunct distribution from Pakistan to Australia and this, along with a wide range of variation in genital organ morphology, strongly suggests that some species are misplaced. The genus *Chilobrachys* is equally problematic, described initially to house a small brown species from Sri Lanka, *C. nitelinus* Karsch, 1892 it now also comprises a variety of larger species occurring from India to Indonesia.

Currently, the World Spider Catalog (2019) recognises eight theraphosid taxa from Borneo: seven species, *Coremiocnemis valida* Pocock, 1895, *Lyrognathus achilles* West & Nunn, 2010, *Lyrognathus fuscus* West & Nunn, 2010, *Phlogiellus obscurus* (Hirst, 1909), *Phlogiellus pelidnus* Nunn, West & von Wirth, 2016, *Pseudnocnemis imbellis* (Simon, 1891), *Selenocosmia barensteineriae* (Schmidt, Hettegger & Matthes, 2010) and a single subspecies, *Phlogiellus insulanus borneoensis* (Schmidt, 2015).

In this work, we describe a new genus and species of theraphosid spider from Sarawak, Borneo based on the unique form of the stridulation organ and male palpal bulb.

Materials and methods

Specimens were examined under a binocular microscope, photographs of stridulatory organs, spermathecae and palpal bulbs were made using a Leica M135 auto–montage. Abbreviations: BMNH/NHMUK = Natural History Museum, London; HMNH =

Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest; OUMNH = Oxford University Museum of Natural History; SMSM = Sarawak Museum Department, Borneo; ALE = anterior lateral eyes, AME = anterior medial eyes, PLE = posterior lateral eyes, PME = posterior medial eyes; Imm. = immature; Coll. = collector; colln = collection; don. = donated; det. = determined. Leg spine terminology follows Petrunkevitch (1925) with the modifications proposed by Bertani (2001): d = dorsal, v = ventral, r = retrolateral, p = prolateral. Palpal bulb keel morphology follows Bertani (2000). Leg formulae starts with the longest leg to the shortest in order of decreasing size, e.g. 4,1,2,3. All measurements in mm. Authors' emphases in [].

Taxonomy

Selenocosmia Ausserer, 1871

Selenocosmia Ausserer, 1871: 204.

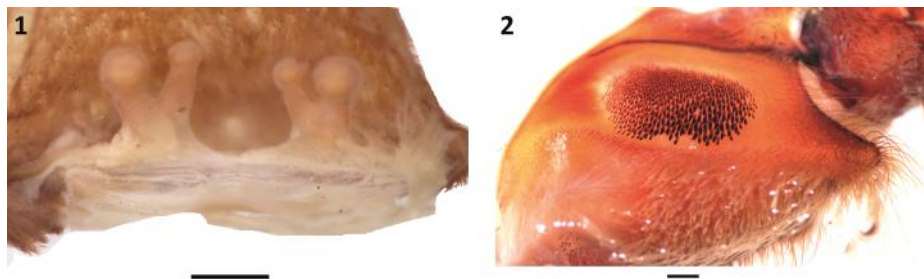
Selenocosmia Simon, 1903: 995.

Selenocosmia Smith, 1986: 115.

Selenocosmia Smith, 1987: 115.

Type species: *S. javanensis* by original designation (Ausserer, 1871).

Diagnosis: *Selenocosmia* [*sensu stricto*] can be distinguished from all other Selenocosmiinae genera except *Pseudnocnemis*, *Coremiocnemis* and *Lyrognathus* by the form of the spermathecae in females (**Fig. 1**), with two receptacles, unfused at base with two lobes at the apex of the opposing receptacles, the retrolateral lobe being wider than the receptacle and the prolateral lobe being slightly narrower in width to the receptacle. It can be further distinguished from *Birupes* **gen. nov.** by the form of the stridulation organ, with oval shaped lyra on the prolateral maxilla (**Fig. 2**). Females of *Selenocosmia* can be distinguished from *Lyrognathus* by the unmodified leg IV and from *Coremiocnemis* by the lack of bottle–brush setae on leg IV. *Selenocosmia* is distinguished from *Pseudnocnemis* by the more pointed shape of the cheliceral strikers. Males can be differentiated from all other genera by palpal bulb morphology, lacking a basal projection, with reduced keelation and a steep embolic



Figs. 1–2: *Selenocosmia javanensis* non-type female BMNH, 1 spermathecae dorsal view, 2 maxilla prolateral view. Scale lines = 1mm.

taper. *Selenocosmia sensu lato* vary in morphology, but most species possess unique palpal bulb or spermathecal morphology in comparison to other selenocosmiine species.

Distribution: Australia, Borneo, China, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Guinea, Pakistan, Philippines and Vietnam.

Species included: *S. aruana* Strand, 1911, *S. deliana* Strand, 1913, *S. effera* (Simon, 1891), *S. basselti* Simon, 1891, *S. hirtipes* Strand, 1913, *S. insignis* (Simon, 1890), *S. javanensis* (Walckenaer, 1837), *S. javanensis brachyplectra* Kulczyński, 1908, *S. javanensis dolichoplectra* Kulczyński, 1908, *S. javanensis fulva* Kulczyński, 1908, *S. javanensis sumatrana* Thorell, 1890, *S. lanipes* Ausserer, 1875, *S. raciborskii* Kulczyński, 1908, *S. samarae* (Giltay, 1935) and *S. strubelli* Strand, 1913 from Indonesia [= Java, Moluccas, Aru Islands and Sumatra]; *S. arndsti* (Schmidt & von Wirth, 1991), *S. compta* Kulczyński, 1911, *S. hirtipes* Strand, 1913, *S. honesta* Hirst, 1909, *S. lanceolata* Hogg, 1914, *S. lanipes* Ausserer, 1875, *S. mittmannae* (Barensteiner & Wehinger, 2005), *S. papuana* Kulczyński, 1908, *S. similis* Kulczyński, 1911, *S. strenna* (Thorell, 1881), *S. strubelli* Strand, 1913 and *S. valida* (Thorell, 1881) from New Guinea; *S. crassipes* (L. Koch, 1874), *S. deliana* Strand, 1913, *S. stirlingi* Hogg, 1901, *S. strenua* (Thorell, 1881) and *S. subvulpina* Strand, 1907 from Australia; *S. tabanensis* Abraham, 1924 from Malaysia; *S. barensteineriae* (Schmidt, Hettegger & Matthes, 2010) from Borneo; *S. jiafu* Zhu & Zhang, 2008 and *S. xinbuaensis* Zhu & Zhang, 2008 from China [*S. jiafu* also known from Laos]; *S. kulluensis* Chamberlin,

1917 and *S. sutherlandi* Gravely, 1935 from India; *S. pritami* Dyal, 1935 from Pakistan; *S. fuliginea* (Thorell, 1895) from Myanmar; *S. kovariki* (Schmidt & Krause, 1995) from Vietnam and *S. peerboomi* (Schmidt, 1999) and *S. samarae* (Giltay, 1935) from the Philippines.

Remarks: *Selenocosmia* currently contains thirty seven recognised taxa, with a distribution throughout Asia. In its present definition it contains species with wildly variable palpal bulb, spermathecae and stridulation organ morphology. Based on our examination of a wide range of type material it is obvious a considerable number of species currently recognised as belonging to the genus *Selenocosmia* are misplaced.

We regard females of *Selenocosmia sensu stricto* as possessing bilobed spermathecal receptacles in combination with oval shaped maxillary lyra and an absence of both incrassate segmentation and bottle brush setae to leg IV. All other species currently placed in the genus which lack this combination of morphological characters are regarded as *Selenocosmia sensu lato*. Substantial work is required to fully resolve the composition and distribution extent of *Selenocosmia* and to delineate, reclassify and redefine misplaced taxa. In particular, it is necessary for males of many species to be redescribed thoroughly or described for the first time.

Koch (1838) described *M. monstrosa* from Java, the description and illustration (**Fig. 3a**) of this species do fit with the expected habitus for a Javan selenocosmiine. Later, Koch



Figs. 3a–3b: Theraphosid illustrations from the works of C. L. Koch (1838, 1842), 3a original illustration of *Mygale monstrosa* Koch, 1838, 3b illustration of misidentified *Theraphosa* sp. male, erroneously treated by Koch (1842) as *Selenocosmia javanensis*.

(1842) attempted to redescribe Walckenaer's *S. javanensis* from a specimen clearly not conspecific, instead the illustrated specimen is an adult male of the genus *Theraphosa* evident from the overall habitus and from the shape of the palpal bulb (**Fig. 3b**). Ausserer (1871) noted that the specimen in Koch (1842) was not the same as *S. javanensis* in the sense of the original specimen described by Walckenaer (1837). However, Ausserer (1871) did consider *M. monstrosa* to be conspecific, regarding it as a junior synonym of *S. javanensis*.

The earlier illustration by Koch (1842) could

have influenced the labelling of a large *Theraphosa blondi* male in the historical collections at OUMNH, which was collected in 1844 and identified initially as “*Theraphosa javanensis*” (**Fig. 4**).

Birupes gen. nov.

Type species: *Birupes simoroxigorum* sp. nov. designated herein.

Diagnosis: *Birupes* gen. nov. can be distinguished from all other Selenocosmiinae genera by the form of the maxillary lyra, basally

Fig. 4: *Theraphosa blondi* (Latreille, 1804) non-type male OUMNH, part of the historical collection and initially labelled as “*Theraphosa javanensis*”.

4



slender, tapering to an incrassate and pointed apex. Males can be further distinguished by palpal bulb morphology with the absence of a basal projection and the embolus with weakly developed PS, PI and A keels, A keel elongate. The angle of the projection of the embolus almost 45 degrees. Females can be further distinguished from all other genera except *Orphnaeus* by the form of the spermathecae, consisting of two uniformly wide receptacles with single wide, rounded lobes fused at the apex of each respective receptacle. Females can also be distinguished from *Lyrogathus* by the lack of incrassate segmentation of leg IV, from *Coremiocnemis* by the absence of bottle-brush setae on leg IV and from *Phlogiellus* by their much larger size.

Etymology: The generic epithet is comprised of the Malaysian word “*biru*” meaning blue and the Latin “*pes*” meaning leg or foot to give the combination of “blue leg” in reference to the colouration of the type species.

Distribution: Known only from Sarawak, Borneo.

Species included:

B. simoroxigorum sp. nov.

Birupes simoroxigorum sp. nov.

Type material: Holotype ♂ SMSM, Batang Salak, Sarawak, Borneo, lowland rainforest, Coll. E. Piorun, K. Juchniewicz and J. Skowronek, 02/11/2018, examined; paratype ♀ SMSM, [same data], examined.

Diagnosis: *B. simoroxigorum* sp. nov. can be distinguished from all other described species of Selenocosmiinae by the form of the stridulation organ with maxillary lyra ending in a pointed apex and from other species on Borneo by the unique colouration, consisting of bright blue leg setae, cream carapace pubescence and light brown abdominal pubescence. Males are further distinguished by palpal bulb morphology with weakly developed

PS, PI and A keels, A keel elongate, with an embolic taper of almost 45 degrees and absence of a basal projection. Females can be further distinguished from all species except those of the genus *Orphnaeus* by the form of the spermathecae, with two wide receptacles with wide single lobes at the apex of each respective receptacle.

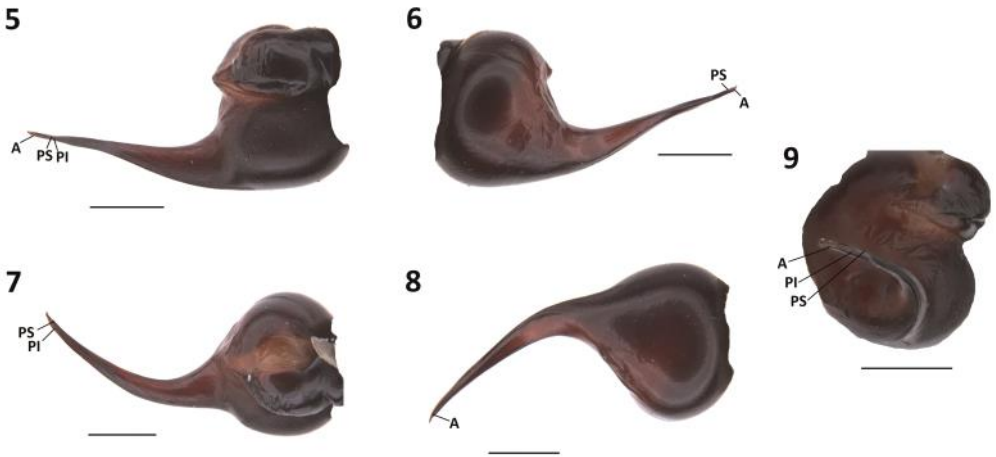
Etymology: The specific epithet is a combined patronym for the children of the collectors: Simon, Roxanne and Igor respectively.

Description: Holotype male (SMSM): Total length including chelicerae 45.1. Carapace: length 18.6, width. 15.9. Caput slightly raised, eye tubercle raised, length 1.7 width 2.7, Anterior eye row procurved, posterior row slightly recurved, eyes ALE < AME, AME > PLE, PLE > PME. Clypeus narrow, clypeal fringe long. Fovea deep, recurved. Abdomen: length 16.5, width 8.0. Chelicerae: length 10.0, width 3.9. Maxillae: with 100–120 cuspules covering approximately 35% of the proximal

Table 1 : *Birupes simoroxigorum* gen. et sp. nov. holotype male SMSM, lengths of legs and palp.

	I	II	III	IV	Palp
Femur	18.8	16.4	14.4	18.3	9.8
Patella	10.3	9.3	8.1	7.5	6.4
Tibia	15.1	15.4	11.1	15.6	8.5
Metatarsus	13.8	13.3	13.6	19.6	—
Tarsus	8.6	7.3	6.1	7.8	3.9
Total	66.6	61.7	53.3	68.8	28.6

edge. Labium: length 2.4 width 2.9, with 250–300 cuspules mostly separated by 0.5–1.5 times the width of a cuspule. Labio–sternum mounds joined, flat. Sternum: length 7.4, width 6.8, with three pairs of sigilla. Tarsi I–IV fully scopulate. Metatarsal scopulae: I 100%; II 100%; III 78%; IV 58%. Lengths of legs and palpal segments (see **Table 1**), legs 4,1,2,3. Femur III slightly incrassate. Spination: tibia III v 0–0–2 (apical), IV 0–0–2 (apical), metatarsus I v 0–0–1 (apical), II v 0–0–2 (apical), III v 0–0–3 (apical), IV v 0–0–3 (apical). Palpal bulb with weakly developed PS, PI and A keels. A keel elongate.



Figs 5–9: *Birupes simoroxigorum* gen. et sp. nov. holotype male SMSM, 5 palpal bulb prolateral view, 6 retrolateral view, 7 dorsal view, 8 ventral view, 9 apical view. Scale lines = 1mm.

Taper of embolus almost 45 degrees (Figs. 5–9, lateral median spinnerets with one segment. see also Table 2). Tibial apophyses absent. Stridulation organ on maxilla consisting of stout lyra basally slender, ending in a sharply pointed basal 3.8, median 2.3, digitiform apical 4.2; and incrassate apex. Lyra variable in size



Fig. 10: *Birupes simoroxigorum* gen. et sp. nov. holotype male SMSM, 10 maxilla pro-lateral view. Scale line = 1mm.

Table 2: *Birupes simoroxigorum* gen. et sp. nov. holotype male SMSM, bulb keelation. After Bertani (2000) homologous keels present, weakly developed (+), developed (++), well developed (+++); or absent (–).

Taxon	PS	PI	A	SA	RS	RI	Additional Comments
<i>Birupes simoroxigorum</i> gen. et sp. nov.	+	+	+	–	–	–	A noticeably elongate

distributed across the entire ventro-basal area of the prolateral maxilla. (Fig. 10).

Paratype female (SMSM): Total length including chelicerae 45.5. Carapace: length 17.0, width 14.3. Caput slightly raised, eye tubercle raised, length 2.0 width 3.2, Anterior eye row procurved, posterior row slightly recurved, eyes ALE < AME, AME > PLE, PLE > PME. Clypeus narrow, clypeal fringe long. Fovea deep, recurved. Abdomen:

Table 3: *Birupes simoroxigorum* gen. et sp. nov. paratype female SMSM, lengths of legs and palp.

	I	II	III	IV	Palp
Femur	13.9	13.0	11.7	15.4	9.8
Patella	9.3	7.7	6.2	7.3	4.3
Tibia	13.1	10.4	9.1	13.0	7.5
Metatarsus	10.2	9.3	10.9	15.6	—
Tarsus	7.0	6.5	5.9	7.9	7.0
Total	53.5	46.9	43.8	59.2	28.6



Fig. 11: *Birupes simoroxigorum* gen. et sp. nov. paratype female SMSM, 11 spermathecae dorsal view. Scale line = 1mm.

12



Figs. 12–13: *Birupes simoroxigorum* gen. et sp. nov. holotype male SMSM and paratype female SMSM in life, 12 male habitus, 13 female habitus.

13



length 19.9, width 12.4. Chelicerae: length 7.5 width 6.8. Maxillae: with 100–120 cuspules covering approximately 32% of the proximal edge. Labium: length 2.3, width 3.1, with 250–300 labial cuspules most separated by 0.5–1 times the width of a single cuspule. Labio–sternum mounds: joined, flat. Sternum: length 7.5, width 6.8, with three pairs of sigilla. Tarsi I–IV fully scopulate. Metatarsal scopulae: I 100%; II 100%; III 71%; IV 48%. Lengths of legs and palpal segments see table 3, legs 4,1,2,3. Femur III unmodified. Spination: tibia III v 0–0–2 (apical), IV v 0–0–2 (apical), metatarsus I v 0–0–1 (apical), II v 0–0–3 (apical), III v 0–0–3 (apical), IV v 0–0–4 (apical). Spermathecae consisting of two wide receptacles, unfused at base with single wide lobes at the apex of each opposing receptacle. Respective lobes of uniform width in comparison to the receptacles (**Fig. 11**). Posterior lateral spinnerets with three segments, basal 4.6, median 2.7, digitiform apical 3.9; lateral median spinnerets with one segment. Stridulation organ on maxilla consisting of stout lyra basally slender, ending in a sharply pointed and incassate apex. Lyra variable in size distributed across the entire ventro–basal area of the prolateral maxilla.

Colour: In life, adult males possess black, non-iridescent leg setae (**Fig. 12**) whereas females possess distinctive iridescent blue colouration to the legs, with cream carapace pubescence and light brown abdominal pubescence (**Fig. 13**). After immersion in spirit it was noticed that the colouration on the legs of the paratype female changed to an iridescent green, which returns to blue shortly after removal of the specimen from alcohol.

Distribution: Known only from the type locality, Batang Salak, Sarawak, Borneo (**Fig. 17**).

Ecology: This species creates burrows on the forest floor (**Figs. 14–15**) in lowland rainforest (**Fig. 16**).

Discussion

The form of the stridulation organ varies between the genera of the Selenocosmiinae and can often be a useful primary taxonomic

character. West and Nunn (2010) describe the maxillary lyra of *Coremiocnemis* as oval shaped, complete with shafted paddles and either with distal blades present or absent. The latter two characters being variable at the species level. Two years later, West, Nunn and Hogg (2012) described *Pseudocnemis* a genus closely related to *Coremiocnemis* in which the stridulation organ is very similar, oval shaped with shafted paddles or shafted “butterknife” bacillae, the latter characters varying at the species level. Conversely, in other genera such as *Phlogiellus* the stridulation organ can range from developed, to weakly developed to entirely absent (Nunn, West and von Wirth, 2016). The form of the stridulation organ of *Chilobrachys* is similarly variable (pers. obs.) but at present this genus has not received comprehensive modern attention. The genus *Birupes* **gen. nov.** is differentiated from all other currently known selenocosmiine genera by the maxillary lyra ending in a sharp point at their apex.

We also consider the form of the male palpal bulb as useful in differentiation of *Birupes* **gen. nov.** from other genera, with a taper of almost 45 degrees, absence of a basal projection and weakly developed PS, PI and A keels. In *B. simoroxigorum* **sp. nov.** the A keel is noticeably elongate when observed ventrally. Conversely, in other selenocosmiine genera the taper and keelation differs with most also possessing a basal projection. In *Poecilotheria* the palpal bulb is wide and distally twisted with distinct keels. In *Chilobrachys* the embolus is at a steeper angle with a large basal projection. In *Orphnaeus* the bulb possess a basal projection and a sharp taper to the apex of the embolus. The bulbs of *Lyrogathus* species are more steeply tapered and the embolus is considerably more elongate. In the genera *Coremiocnemis* and *Pseudocnemis* the bulbs are more elongate, at a steeper angle with a sharp apical curve. In its present definition, the genus *Phlogiellus* shows a wide range of variation in the form of the male palpal bulb. Indeed, the variation is so wide that, in conjunction with the wide variation of the form of the stridulation organ we suspect *Phlogiellus* under its current definition may contain species which are heterogeneric. Males of *Selenocosmia sensu stricto* are somewhat similar in palpal bulb



Figs. 14–15: Burrow entrances at the type locality of *Birupes simoroxigorum* gen. et sp. nov. in Batang Salak, Sarawak, Borneo.



16



Fig. 16: Habitat at the type locality of *Birupes simoroxigorum* gen. et sp. nov. in Batang Salak, Sarawak, Borneo.

17

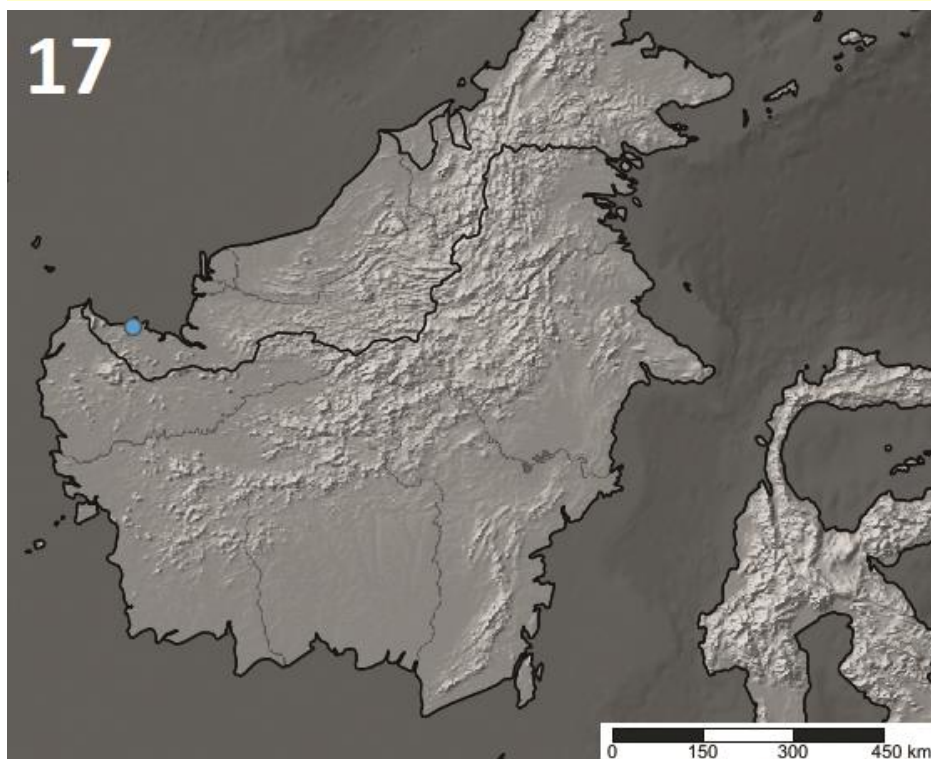


Fig. 17: Map showing the type locality of *Birupes simoroxigorum* gen. et sp. nov.

morphology to *Birupes* **gen. nov.** but the embolus has a steeper angle, is more tapered at the apex and the A keel is shorter in comparison.

The spermathecae of the female of *B. simoroxigorum* **sp. nov.** is diagnostic when compared against almost all other Selenocosmiinae genera but is similar in general shape to species of the genus *Orpbnaeus*. However, these two genera differ significantly in the form of the stridulation organ as discussed above and this feature robustly differentiates females of *Birupes* **gen. nov.** from *Orpbnaeus*.

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coll. E.W. Oates; 1 ♂ *Chilobrachys sericeus* BMNH 1895.9.21.24, Rangoon, South Burma, coll. E.W. Oates; 1 ♂, 14 Imm. *Chilobrachys sericeus* BMNH 1895.9.21.24–39, Rangoon, South Burma, coll. E.W. Oates; 1 ♀ *Chilobrachys sericeus* BMNH 1895.9.21.40, Rangoon, South Burma, coll. E.W. Oates; 2 ♂ *Chilobrachys thorelli* BMNH 1897.6.24.22–23, Sadiya, India, coll. Godwin and Austen; 1 ♀ *Coremiocnemis valida* BMNH 1860.15, East Indian Museum; 1 ♀ *Haplocosmia himalayana* BMNH 1899.8.19.3, Dehia Dun, India, coll. F. Gleadow; 1 ♀ *Poecilotheria banumavilasumica* BMNH, Ramanathapuram District, Pamban/Rameswaram Island, Hanumavilasum Estate, (Aneyamkunde Devastanam Trust), in Tamerind Plantation, Coll. A. M. Smith & P. Carpenter, 25.IX.2003.; 1 ♀ *Poecilotheria banumavilasumica* BMNH, South India; 1 ♂ *Poecilotheria rufilata* BMNH 99.7.12–9, Trivandrum; 1 ♂ *Poecilotheria subfusca* BMNH 1890.10.22.90, Punduloya, Ceylon, Coll. E. E. Green; 1 ♀ *Poecilotheria subfusca* BMNH 1890.10.22.90, Punduloya, Ceylon, E.E. Green; 1 ♂ *Poecilotheria vittata*, BMNH 86–93; 1 ♀ *Selenocosmia fuliginea* BMNH 1895.9.21.23, Tharrawaddy, Burma, coll. E. W. Oates; 1 ♂ *Selenocosmia honesta* BMNH 1908.6.27.1, Fak Fak, Dutch New Guinea; 1 ♂ *Selenocosmia insulana* BMNH 1896.5.25–37, Djampea Id., coll. A. Everett; 1 ♀ *Selenocosmia lanceolata* BMNH 1921.3.24.2, Dutch New Guinea, B.O.U.Q; 1 m, 7 Imm. *Selenocosmia obscura* BMNH 94.9.10.3–7, Sarawak, coll. C. Hose; 1 ♀ *Selenocosmia stalkerii* BMNH 1907.2.2.2, Alexandria, Northern Territory of South Australia, coll. Mr W. Stalker; 1 ♂? *Selenocosmia vulpina* BMNH 1846.73, Cape Upstart, Australia, [both palps and some legs missing].

Other material examined (museum numbers given where known): **HNHM** specimens: 1 ♀ *Selenocosmia* sp. HMNH, Sumatra, 1932, coll. Bandat Horst, *Selenocosmia* sp. det. D. Sherwood and R. Gabriel 26/06/17. **NHMUK** specimens: 1 ♀ *Chilobrachys andersoni* BMNH 1929.11.4.9, Rangoon, South Burma, coll. W. Archibald, det. D J Clark 1961; 1 ♀ *Chilobrachys andersoni* BMNH, Bisenat, Malay, Penin, coll. Annandale and Robinson, det. A. M. Smith 1990; 1 ♀ *Chilobrachys andersoni* BMNH, Malay, Penin, coll. Mike Culling, *Chilobrachys* species closely related to *andersoni* det. A. M. Smith 1990; 1 ♂ *Chilobrachys andersoni* BMNH, Malaya, Horticultural Station, Petaling Jaya nr. Kuala Lumpur, coll. Ibrahim Baba, Aug. 1960, The spider is reported to have been living in a large empty cardboard box in the fertiliser store of the Horticultural station., det. D.J. Clark 1961; 1 ♂ *Chilobrachys nitelinus* BMNH, Ceylon, Namunukula, Tonacombe, UVA hills, coll. W.W. A. Phillips, 24/03/1954, Caught at night after it had bitten a child, det. D.J. Clark 1961; 1 ♂ *Chilobrachys nitelinus* BMNH 1890.10.22.71–72, Punduloya, coll. E. E. Green; 1 ♀ *Chilobrachys bicolor* BMNH 1895.2.2.1, Myingyan, Upper Burma, coll. E. Watson; 5 ♂ *Chilobrachys fimbriatus* BMNH 44.9.21.156–160, Jaoli Sata, det. A.M. Smith 1990; 1 ♀ *Chilobrachys flavopilosus* BMNH 1895.9.21–22, Thayetmyo, Upper Burma, coll. E.W. Oates, det. A.M. Smith 1990; 1 m, 1 Imm. ♀, 1 Imm. *Chilobrachys fumosus* BMNH 09.10.7.17–18, Sureil, Darjeeling, coll. A. Alcock, 1905; 10 Imm. *Chilobrachys* sp. BMNH 1895.9.21, Tenasserum, coll. E.W. Oates, *Chilobrachys andersoni* det. D. Sherwood and R. Gabriel 12/10/18; 1 Imm. *Chilobrachys* sp. BMNH 1895.9.21, Thagetmya, coll. E.W. Oates; 1 ♀ *Chilobrachys* sp. BMNH 1924.3.1.2.895, Ceylon, coll. Hogg, det. A.M. Smith 1990; 1 ♀ *Chilobrachys* sp. BMNH, Ceylon, bird eating spider, det. R. Gabriel 16.01.09; 1 ♂ *Chilobrachys* sp. BMNH, Upper Burma Southeast China, 1990; 2 Imm. *Chilobrachys* sp. BMNH, coll. Mr Barnes; 1 Imm. *Chilobrachys* sp. BMNH, det. A.M. Smith 1990; 1 Imm. *Chilobrachys* sp. BMNH, [no other data]; 1 ♀ *Chilobrachys stridulans* BMNH 09.10.7.16, Silcane, Cachaz; 2 ♂ *Chilobrachys stridulans* BMNH 09.10.7.14–15, Pankabaree, Sikkim; 7 Imm. *Chilobrachys stridulans* BMNH 09.10.7–13, Sibsagan, Assam, coll. S.E. Pearl; det. S. Hour 20/02/1977; 5 Imm. *Chilobrachys stridulans* BMNH 09.10.7.1.1–5, Assam, coll. S.E. Pearl; 2 Imm. *Coremiocnemis cunicularia* BMNH 1896.6.20.20–12, Penang, coll. S. Flower, This species and C. Validus Poc. Are probably synonymous det. D.J. Clark 1961; 3 Imm. *Coremiocnemis cunicularia* BMNH 96.8.19.11–13, Singapore, coll. H. N. Ridley, det. D.J. Clark 1961; 1 ♂ *Haplocosmia himalayana* BMNH 09.6.1,

[other writing indiscernible]; 1 ♀ *Selenocosmia* sp. BMNH 11.6.2.1, Singapore, Botanic Gardens, Feb 1911, coll. H. N. Ridley; 2 ♀ *Selenocosmia crassipes* BMNH 1924.9.25.1–2, Hicks Island, Grenville, York Peninsul., Australia, W.A.I.E., *S. crassipes* det. Barbara Main 1959; 1 f, 1 Imm. ♀ *Selenocosmia crassipes* BMNH 1923.12.4.1–10, Port Darwin, North Australia, coll. Mrs Edward Wilson, *S. crassipes* det. B.Y. Main; 1 ♀ *Selenocosmia* sp. BMNH 1901.3.20.10, Singapore, *Selenocosmia* sp. (not javanensis) det. D. J. Court, 7th July 2010; 1 f, 1 Imm. *Selenocosmia* sp. BMNH 95.10.6.13, Barem River, coll. C. Hose; 1 ♂ *Selenocosmia stirlingi* BMNH 1924.3.1.1746, Cockburn, S. Australia, coll. J. R. Tregeagle, Hogg colln, *S. stirlingi* det. Barbara Main 1959; 1 f, 1 Imm. ♀, 1 Imm. *Selenocosmia stirlingi* BMNH 10.5.30.4, Around Hermanns Bury, Central Australia, coll. H. J. Hillier, det. B.Y. Main; 1 ♂ *Selenocosmia* sp. BMNH 7.10.1952, Selang, K. Limpur, Guillemard Road, Malaya, G. 5425, coll. H. T. Pagden, *Selenocosmia* sp. det. D.J. Clark 1959; 1 ♂ *Selenocosmia* sp. BMNH 12.4.1954, Selang, K. Limpur, Guillemard Road, G. 6116, coll. H. T. Pagden, Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, C.I.E. Coll 13725, 6116, Dest. Agric, det. D. Macfarlane; 1 ♀ *Selenocosmia stirlingi* BMNH 1903.2.10.20, Corlsandie W.A., coll. C. Newel; 11 Imm. *Selenocosmia* sp. BMNH, 1 tube *Selenocosmia javanensis* juveniles, removed from jar 26/6 Speria Aranus etc., det. R. Gabriel, 26.02.09, 11 Imm. *Selenocosmia* sp. (cannot identify juveniles with no locality data to species level) det. D. Sherwood and R. Gabriel 05/11/18; 1 ♂ *Selenocosmiinae* sp. BMNH 98.10.18.2, Dindings, coll. H. N. Ridley, recd. 2 Oct, 1898; 1 ♀, 1 Imm. *Selenocosmia* sp. BMNH 97.12.15.1, Sumatra, coll. Dr. Maesh, likely to be javanensis sumatrana det. A. Smith 90; 1 ♂ *Selenocosmiinae* sp. BMNH, Singapore, Fnd. C. Clayton, Feb 1959; 1 ♀ *Selenocosmiinae* sp. BMNH 1928.5.30.1, Dak-Jo, Annam, coll. Delacount-Lowe, Oxford; 1 ♀ *Selenocosmiinae* sp. BMNH, New Britain, coll. Mrs G. Hunt, recd. 8/1/65; 2 1 ♀ *Selenocosmiinae* sp. BMNH 97.5.24.5.6, Ceylon, probably wrong, coll. D. Hendel; 1 ♂, 2 ♀ *Selenocosmia* sp. BMNH 17.11.1.1.2, Soah Kanorah, Halmaheira, coll. W. Kukenthal, *Selenocosmia effera* det. R. Gabriel and D. Sherwood 27/11/18; 2 ♀, 1 Imm. *Selenocosmia javanensis* BMNH 91.4.30.10–11, Salak (Java), coll. R. Kirkpatrick, label discrepancy 1903.2.10.20 (new), 91.4.30.10–11 (old); 1 ♀, 1 Imm. *Selenocosmia javanensis* BMNH 98.4.15.8–9, Depok nr. Batavia, Montebello No. 1 Java, *Selenocosmia javanensis* det. R. Gabriel and D. Sherwood 27/11/18; 2 ♀ *Selenocosmia javanensis* BMNH 1901.7.15.8–9, Buitemorg, coll. J. W. Christian. **OUMNH** specimens: 1 ♂, 1 ♀ *Chilobrachys nitelinus* OUMNH, Ceylon, Jar 33 139 vodata, 136 remain, Ceylon Lowe, det. Raven 1984, O Pickard–Cambridge colln; 1 ♂, 2 ♀ *Lyrognathus* sp. OUMNH, India, *Selenocosmia stridulans*, *Lyrognathus robustus* det. R. Pocock, *Lyrognathus* sp. det. R. Gabriel and D. Sherwood, 12/10/18; 1 ♂ *Selenocosmia ardnsti* OUMNH 2008–071, PNG, pet trade, don. K. Matzen, 2005, R. Gabriel colln; 6 ♀ *Coremiocnemis* sp. OUMNH 2007–064, Malaysia, Imported Lee Arden Spidershop UK, R. Gabriel colln; 2 ? *Chilobrachys hardwicki* OUMNH, Ceylon, Jar 86 Thwaites, O Pickard–Cambridge colln; 2 ♀ *Phlogiellus* sp. OUMNH, Sumatra, Jar 97, det. R. Gabriel and R. Gallon, O Pickard–Cambridge colln; 1 ♂ *Phlogius* sp. OUMNH, Sarina, Queensland, Australia, ex. pet trade, det. R. Gabriel, R. Gabriel colln; 1 ? *Phlogiellus* sp. OUMNH, Drawer 9, det. R. Gabriel, O Pickard–Cambridge colln; 1 ♂ *Orphnaeus philipinus* OUMNH 2008–071, pet trade, don. K. Matzen, R. Gabriel colln; 1 ♀, 6 Imm. ♀, 1 Imm. ♂, 4 Imm. *Selenocosmia dichromata* OUMNH 2009–024, Imported Lee Arden Spidershop UK, 30/05/2009, det. R. Gabriel, R. Gabriel colln; 1 ♀ *Selenocosmia dichromata* OUMNH 2009–051, PNG, Imported Lee Arden Spidershop UK, det. R. Gabriel, R. Gabriel colln; 1 Imm. *Selenocosmia* sp. OUMNH, Drawer 16, det. R. Gabriel, Hope/Westwood colln; 1 ♂, 1 ♀ *Selenocosmia* sp. OUMNH, Jar 96 *Selenocosmia* sp N, det. A. Smith 07/04/06, Ridley, O Pickard–Cambridge colln; 2 ♀ *Selenocosmia* sp. OUMNH 2009–024, PNG, Imported Lee Arden Spidershop UK, 30/05/2009, det. R. Gabriel, R. Gabriel colln.

Editor's Note

I am indebted to Richard Gallon for peer-reviewing this new species description.