

Leg Spination of Some *Coccorchestes* Species (Araneae: Attidae)

By

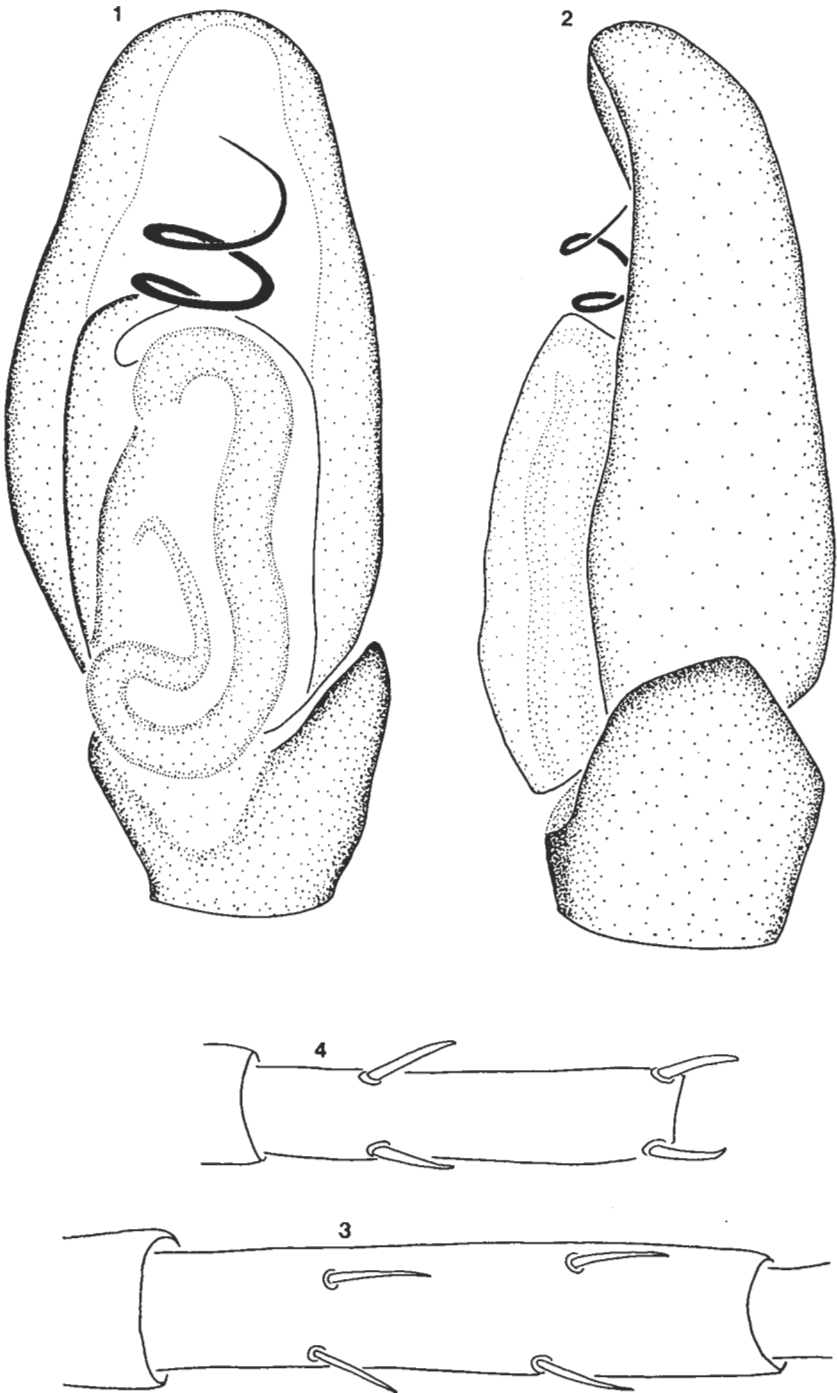
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Abstract. A description of leg spination of five *Coccorchestes* species is given. A key and a number of figures accomplished for distinguishing the species.

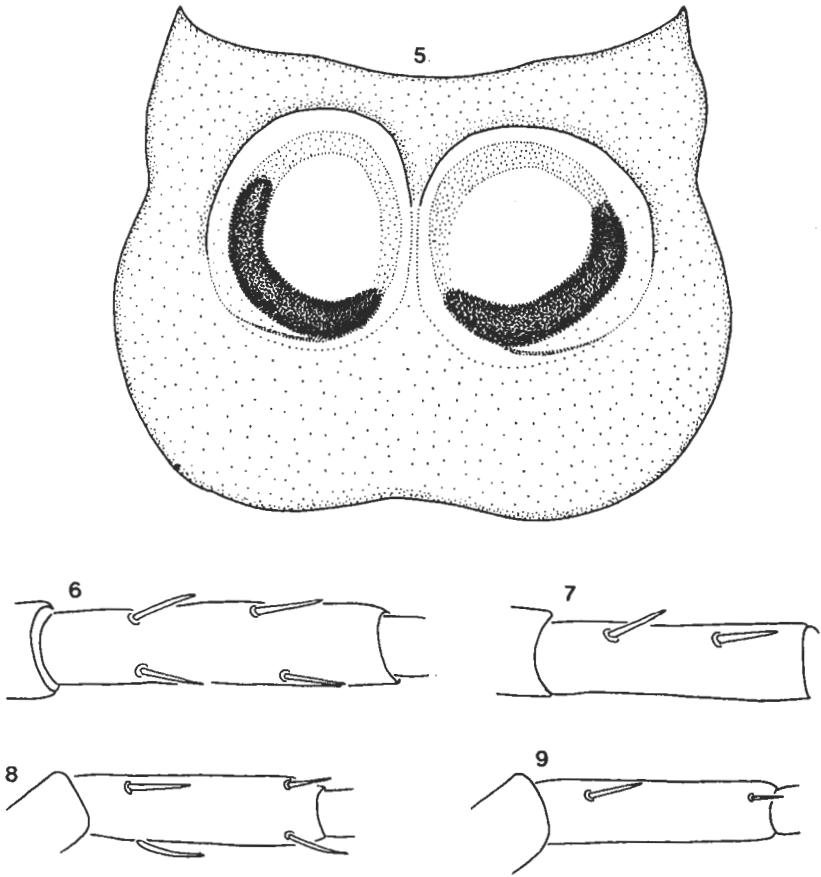
Founding himself on the study of the type-material, J. PRÓSZYNSKI (1971) has revised the species of the genus *Coccorchestes* and described further three new taxa. These came from a material which was sent to KULCZYNSKI for identification to Kraków, probably during the first decade of this century. It seems that a part of that material remained with KULCZYNSKI and was deposited in the collection of the Instytut Zoologiczny PAN after his death. All the above facts are evident from PRÓSZYNSKI's remarks made at the time when the new species were described. All the localities and data well agree with those which the Hungarian LAJOS BIRÓ collected during his stay in New Guinea. PRÓSZYNSKI also made very useful remarks when giving the details of the original labels placed in the vials by KULCZYNSKI. From these it became known that KULCZYNSKI's „*Coccorchestes* 1” species was described as *C. buszkoae* PRÓSZ., „*Coccorchestes* 2” as *C. staregai* PRÓSZ. and „*Coccorchestes* 3” as *C. jahilnickii* PRÓSZ., respectively. I have found *Coccorchestes* species with similar labels in the collection of the Hungarian Natural History Museum, collected by LAJOS BIRÓ. Since also the localities are identical, it is certain that here the same species are in question as the ones described by PRÓSZYNSKI. Evidently, a part of the *Coccorchestes* specimens collected by BIRÓ were kept back for description by KULCZYNSKI, when the others were returned to Budapest.

While in lack of type-material, I could still investigate specimens which were identical with PRÓSZYNSKI's species with full certainty. These investigations were made necessary by the new realization that the various *Coccorchestes* materials contained more unknown taxa besides the five already known ones. After a study of all the available specimens it became evident that the leg spination is a useful distinguishing character for species groups or sometimes even for

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Figs. 1-4. *Coccorchestes rufipes* THORELL, 1881, male. 1: left palpus, ventral; 2: left palpus, lateral; 3: tibia I, ventral 4: metatarsus I, ventral;



Figs. 5 – 9. *Coccorchestes rufipes* THORELL, 1881, female. 5: epigynum; 6: tibia I, ventral; 7: tibia II, ventral; 8: metatarsus I, ventral; 9: metatarsus II, ventral

species. The leg spination was mentioned by THORELL (1881) in his original descriptions, unfortunately however, it was fully omitted by PRÓSZYNSKI. The present work intends to fill up the gap. Regrettably, the species *Coccorchestes blendae* THORELL, 1881 was not available for present study. Its spination is given here after THORELL (1881, p. 676).

Coccorchestes rufipes THORELL, 1881

(Figs. 1 – 9)

The few specimens studied show no variation. As in all species, there is a great deviation between males and females.

Males:

Legs I. Tibiae: with 2.2 ventral, metatarsi with 2.3 spines of which spine 3 situated distally and pushed dorsally.

Legs II. Tibiae: 1.2 ventral; metatarsi: 2.3, their position as in legs I.
Legs III. Tibiae: with no ventral spination; metatarsi: 2.3.
Legs IV. Tibiae: without ventral spines; metatarsi 2.3.

Females:

Legs I. Tibiae: 2.2 ventral; metatarsi 2.2;
Legs II. Tibiae: 1.1 ventral; metatarsi: 1.1;
Legs III.: without spines;
Legs IV.: without spines.

Coccorchestes buszkoae PRÓSZYNSKI, 1971

(Figs. 10 - 17)

Both in males and females studied, tibiae I with changeable numbers of spines.

Males:

Legs I. Tibiae: 2.2 or 1.2 ventral; metatarsi: 2.2;
Legs II. Tibiae: without spines; metatarsi: 2.2 ventral;
Legs III. Tibiae without ventral spines; metatarsi: 0.3 ventral;
Legs IV. Tibiae without ventral spines; metatarsi: 0.3 ventral.

Females:

Legs I. Tibiae: 2.2 or 2.1 ventral; metatarsi: 1.2;
Legs II. Tibiae: 1.0 ventral; metatarsi without spines;
Legs III. without spines;
Legs IV. without spines.

Coccorchestes jahilnickii PRÓSZYNSKI, 1971

(Figs. 18 - 27)

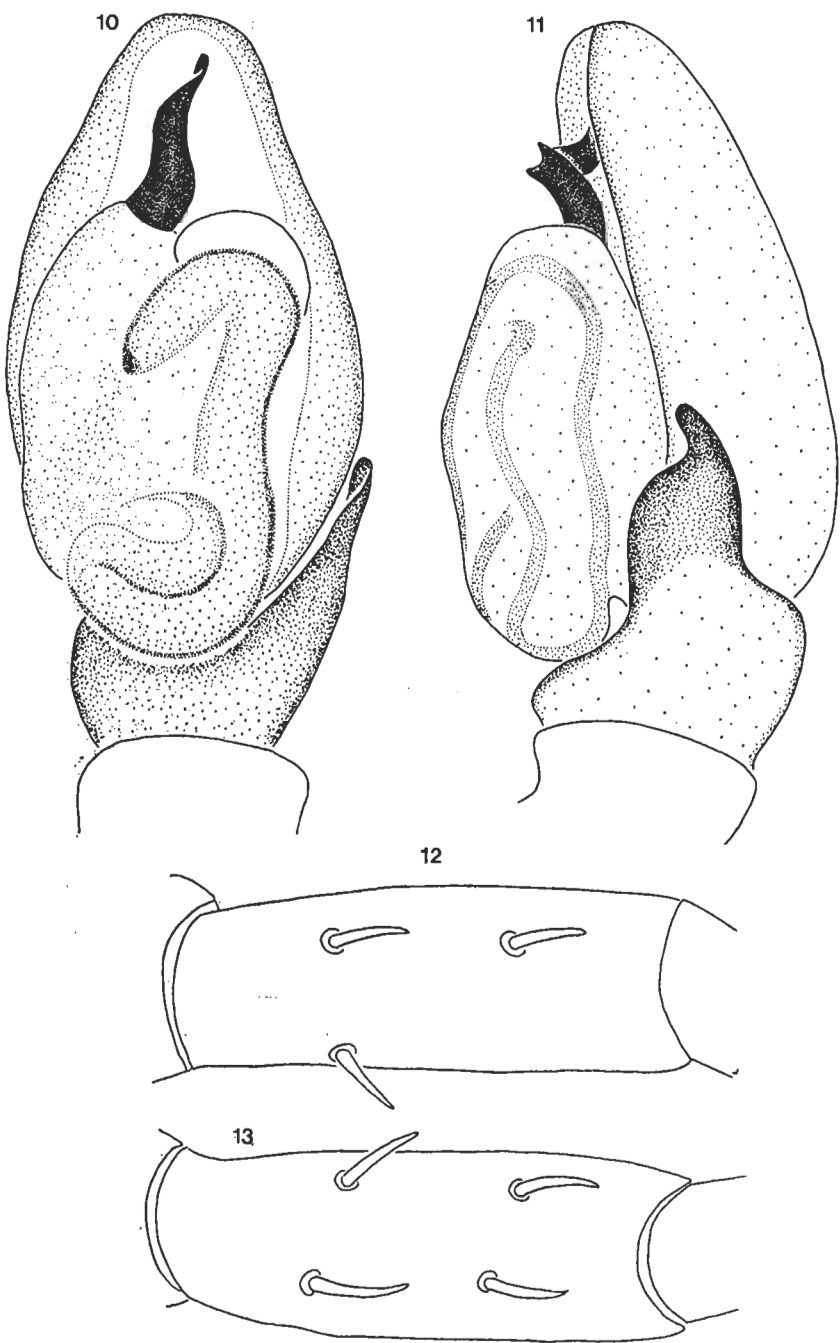
The males studied on tibiae I, the females on metatarsi I, with variable numbers of spines.

Males:

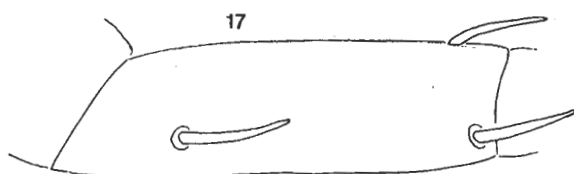
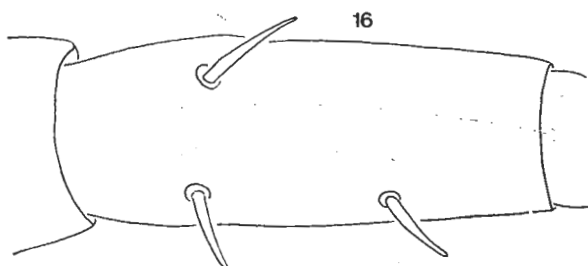
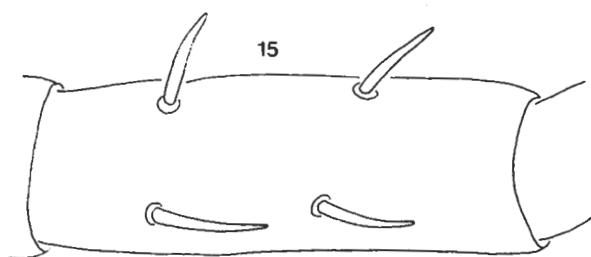
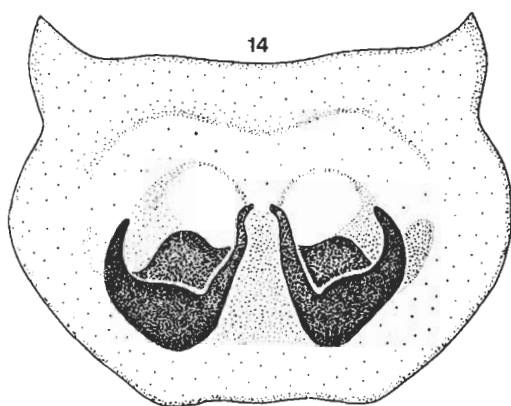
Legs I. Tibiae: 2.2 or 2.1 ventral; metatarsi: 2.0;
Legs II. Tibiae: 1.0 ventral; metatarsi: 2.0;
Legs III. Tibiae with no ventral spines; metatarsi: 1.2;
Legs IV. Tibiae with no ventral spines; metatarsi: 2.2.

Females:

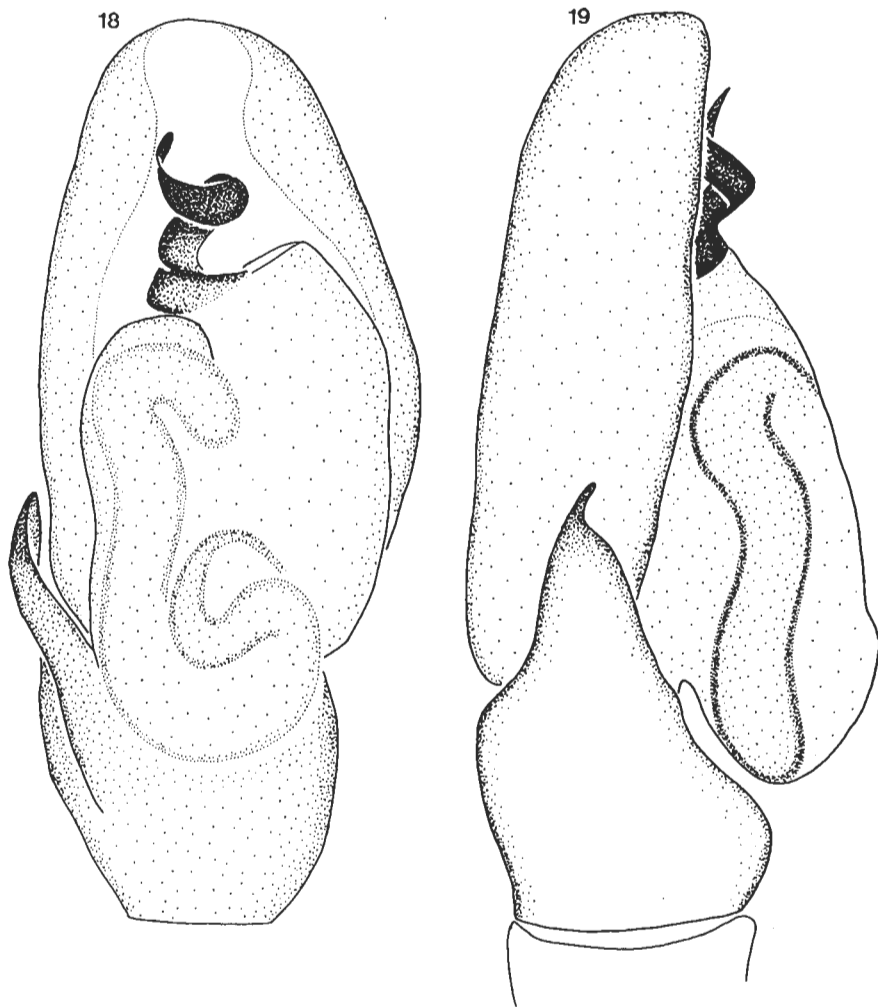
Legs I. Tibiae: 2.2 ventral; metatarsi: 2.0 or 1.0;
Legs II. Tibiae: 1.0 ventral; metatarsi with no spines;
Legs III. without spines;
Legs IV. without spines.



Figs. 10 – 13. *Coccorchestes buszkoae* PRÓSZYŃSKI, 1971, male. 10: left palpus, ventral: 11: left palpus, lateral: 12: left tibia I, ventral: 13: right tibia I, ventral



Figs. 14 – 17. *Coccorchestes buszkoae* PRÓSZYŃSKI, 1971, female. 14: epigynum, 15: left tibia I, ventral; 16: right tibia I, ventral; 17: left metatarsus I, latero-ventral



Figs. 18–19. *Coccorchestes jahilnickii* PRÓSZYNSKI, 1971, male. 18: right palpus, ventral; 19: right palpus, lateral

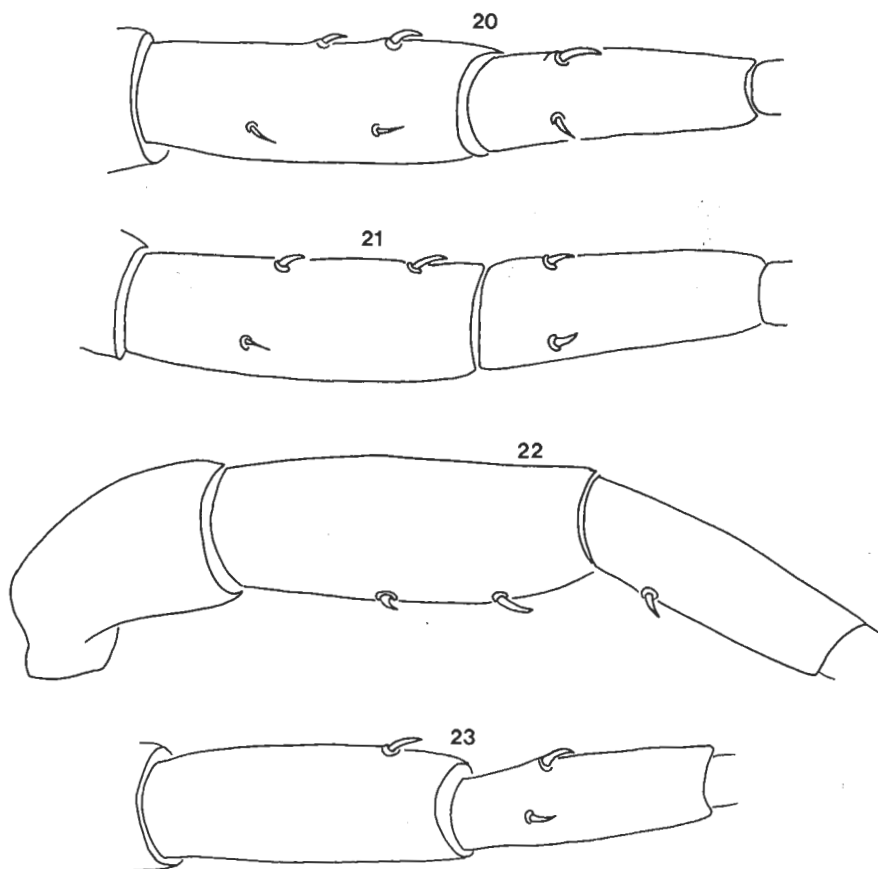
Coccorchestes staregai PRÓSZYNSKI, 1971

(Figs. 28–30)

Male: unknown

Females:

- Legs I. Tibiae: 2.2 ventral; metatarsi: 2.2;
- Legs II. without spines;
- Legs III. without spines;
- Legs IV. without spines.



Figs. 20–23. *Coccorchestes jahilnickii* PRÓSZYŃSKI, 1971, male. 20–21: tibia + metatarsus I, ventral; 22: tibia + metatarsus I, lateral; 23: tibia + metatarsus II, ventral

Coccorchestes blendae THORELL, 1881

Sexually mature male: unknown; young male: undescribed.

Females:

Legs I. Tibiae: 2.2 ventral; metatarsi: 2.2;

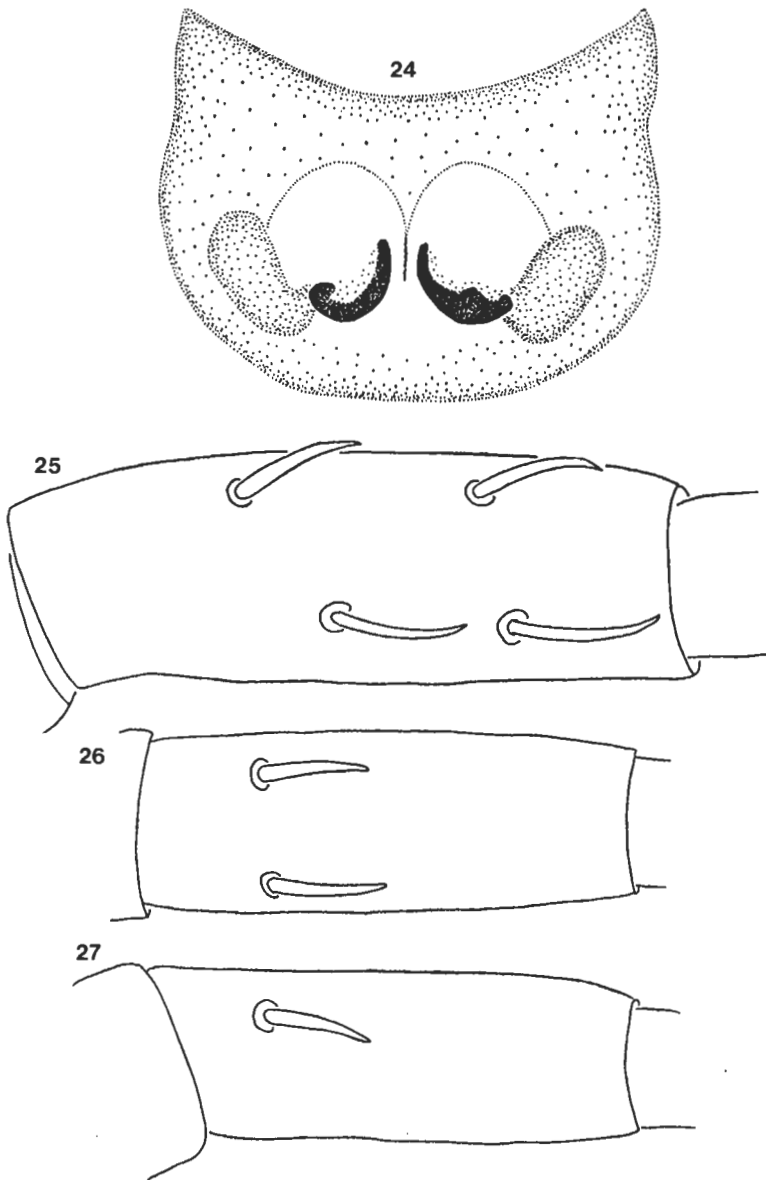
Legs II. Tibiae: 1.1 ventral; metatarsi: 2.2;

Legs III. without spines;

Legs IV. without spines.

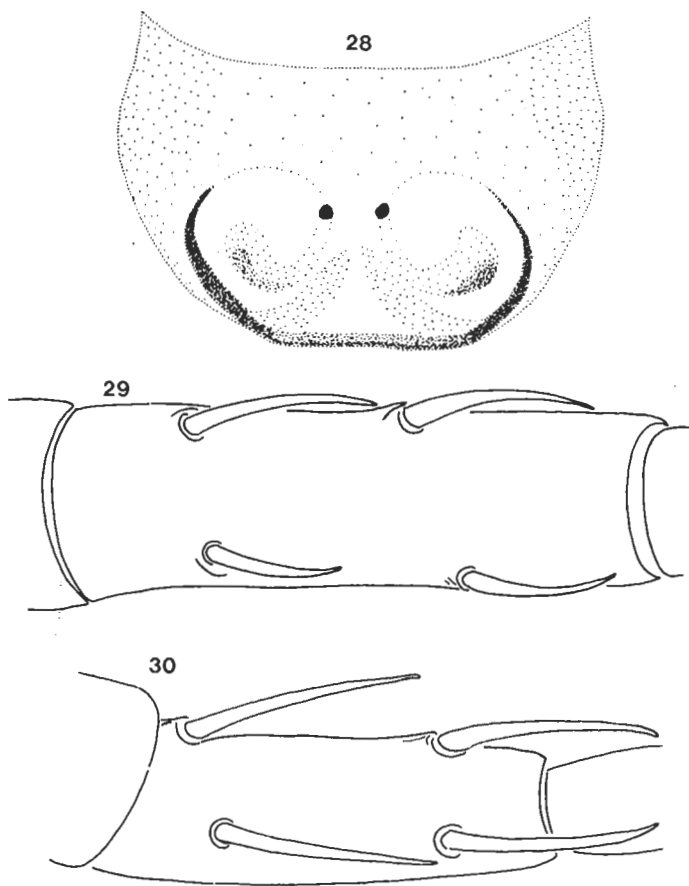
The specimen was not seen, data on this species are from THORELL.

No doubt, the few specimens of the species studied do not permit to draw a unequivocal inference. A special caution is needed, as in other – yet undescribed – species under investigation one could observe a diversity of numbers of spines to an even greater extent. Still, regarding the above five species the following seems to be generally true:



Figs. 24–27. *Coccorchestes jahilnickii* PRÓSZYŃSKI, 1971, female. 24: epigynum; 25: right tibia I, ventral; 26–27: right metatarsus I, ventral

1) Tibiae III and IV are always without spines, both in males and females.
 2) Metatarsi III and IV are always with spines in males, however, always without spines in females. More generally, it could be stated that 3) All the 4 pairs of legs are with spines, and the legs III and IV of the females are always without spines.



Figs. 28–30. *Coccorchestes staregai* PRÓSZYNSKI, 1971, female. 28: epigynum; 29: tibia I, ventral; 30: metatarsus I, ventral

This seems to be a rather important fact as that character, i. e. the presence or absence of spines in legs III and IV is one frequently used in keys for Attidae in SIMON's book.

From the characters presented above the following key can be composed to the five species of *Coccorchestes* considered here. The key might also be regarded as a part of differential diagnosis.

- 1 (8) Metatarsi III and IV with spines (males).
- 2 (3) Tibiae II without spines *C. buszkoae* PRÓSZ.
- 3 (2) Tibiae II with spines.
- 4 (5) Tibiae II with 1 single, proximal spine *C. jahilnickii* PRÓSZ.
- 5 (4) Tibiae II with 2 or 3 spines.
- 6 (7) Tibiae II with 2 (1.1) spines *C. blendae* THOR.
- 7 (6) Tibiae II with 3 (1.2) spines *C. rufipes* THOR.
- 8 (1) Metatarsi III and IV without spines (females).
- 9 (10) Tibiae II without spines *C. staregai* PRÓSZ.

- 10 (9) Tibiae II with 1 or 2 spines.
 11 (14) Tibiae II with 2 (1.1) spines
 12 (13) Metatarsi II with 4 (2.2) spines **C. blendae** THOR.
 13 (12) Metatarsi II with 2 (1.1) spines **C. rufipes** THOR.
 14 (11) Tibiae II with 1 (1.0) spine.
 15 (16) Metatarsi I and II with 4 (2.2) spines; metatarsi III and IV with distal spines
 **C. buszkoae** PRÓSZ.
 16 (15) Metatarsi I and II with 2 (2.0) spines; metatarsi III and IV besides distal spines with 1 or
 2 proximal ones **C. jahilnickii** PRÓSZ.

A study of a greater of specimens might show a more pronounced spinal diversity. In that case the above key should be altered.

REFERENCES

1. PRÓSZYNSKI, J. (1971): *Redescriptions of type-species of genera of Salticidae (Aranei), VIII—X. Revision of the subfamily Coccorchestinae.* — Ann. Zool. Warszawa, 27: 153—182.
 2. THORELL, T. (1881): *Studi sui ragni Malesi a Papuani.* — Ann. Mus. Civ. Stor. Nat. Genova, 17: 1—720.