

Pseudeuophrys lanigera (Simon, 1871) (Araneae, Salticidae) a new species for the Romanian Arachnofauna

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Abstract:

This paper presents for the first time *Pseudeuophrys lanigera* (Simon, 1871) in the fauna of Romania. Drawings of the male's palp are presented. Until now we've recorded this species only in the south-western Romania (Banat region) in three locations: Timisoara, Lugoj and Baile Herculane. We expect however that in the future this species will be found and in other regions of Romania. In all collection places the individuals of *Pseudeuophrys lanigera* (Simon, 1871) were gathered in autumn from and around the buildings.

Résumé:

Cet article présente pour la première fois *Pseudeuophrys lanigera* (Simon, 1871) dans la faune de la Roumanie. Des schémas du palp de mâle sont présentés. Jusqu'ici le nous avons enregistré ce des espèces seulement dans le sud-ouest de la Roumanie (région de Banat) dans trois endroits : Timisoara, Lugoj et Baile Herculane. Nous prévoyons cependant qu'à l'avenir cette espèce sera trouvée aussi dans d'autres régions de la Roumanie. Dans les trois endroits de collection les individus du *Pseudeuophrys lanigera* (Simon, 1871) ont été recueillis en automne et autour des bâtiments.

Key words: *Pseudeuophrys lanigera* (Simon, 1871), Romania, fauna.

Introduction

Jumping spiders along with spiders from the families: Lycosidae, Clubionidae, Miturgidae and Liocranidae, were well studied in Romania in the '70 and '80. The results of those works are reflected in the volumes of Romanian Fauna: FUHN I. E. & NICULESCU-BURLACU F. (1971), STERGHIU CL. (1985), FUHN I. E. & GHERASIM V. (1995).

Regarding the jumping spiders, until this study in Romanian fauna are recorded 75 species and another 8 are uncertain or unfound in the museums collections (WEISS & URAK 2000).

In the present paper we add a new species to the list of spiders from Romania. The *Pseudeuophrys lanigera* (Simon, 1871) is a European species, found in Western and Central Europe (PLATNICK 2007). This is essentially a synanthropic species almost always found in and around the houses.

The specimens collected by me from the South-Western Romania are now in the collections of the National Museum d'Histoire Naturelle „Grigore Antipa” from Bucuresti and in Department of Biology, Faculty of Chemistry-Biology-Geography, West University of Timișoara.

Material and Methods

In the autumn of 2005 I have collected 4 juvenile (males) of *Pseudeuophrys lanigera* (Simon,

1871) in the following localities: Timișoara (5 November 2005), Lugoj (28 November 2005) and Băile Herculane (13 November 2005).

After collection, specimens were reared with *Drosophila melanogaster* until they reached maturity in December that year. After reaching maturity they were photographed and than sacrificed for identification. After that they were preserved in alcohol 70%.

For the identification of the specimens we used the online papers of PROSZYNSKI J., available at: <http://salticidae.org/salticid/diagnost/title-pg.htm>, the Guide to French Salticidae by Montardy I., from: <http://saitis.club.fr/montardi/salticidae/index.html> and Spinnen Mitteleuropas – Bestimmungsschlüssel from: www.araneae.unibe.ch.

The geographical coordinates of the collections places were obtained with the help of a Yakumo Pocket PC unit with GPS.

Results and discussions

The specimens were found two in Timișoara (45°45'00"N and 21°14'25"E), one in Lugoj (45°41'32"N and 21°54'04"E) and one in Băile Herculane (44°53'04"N and 22°24'27"E) (fig 1).

All four specimens were found on buildings walls.

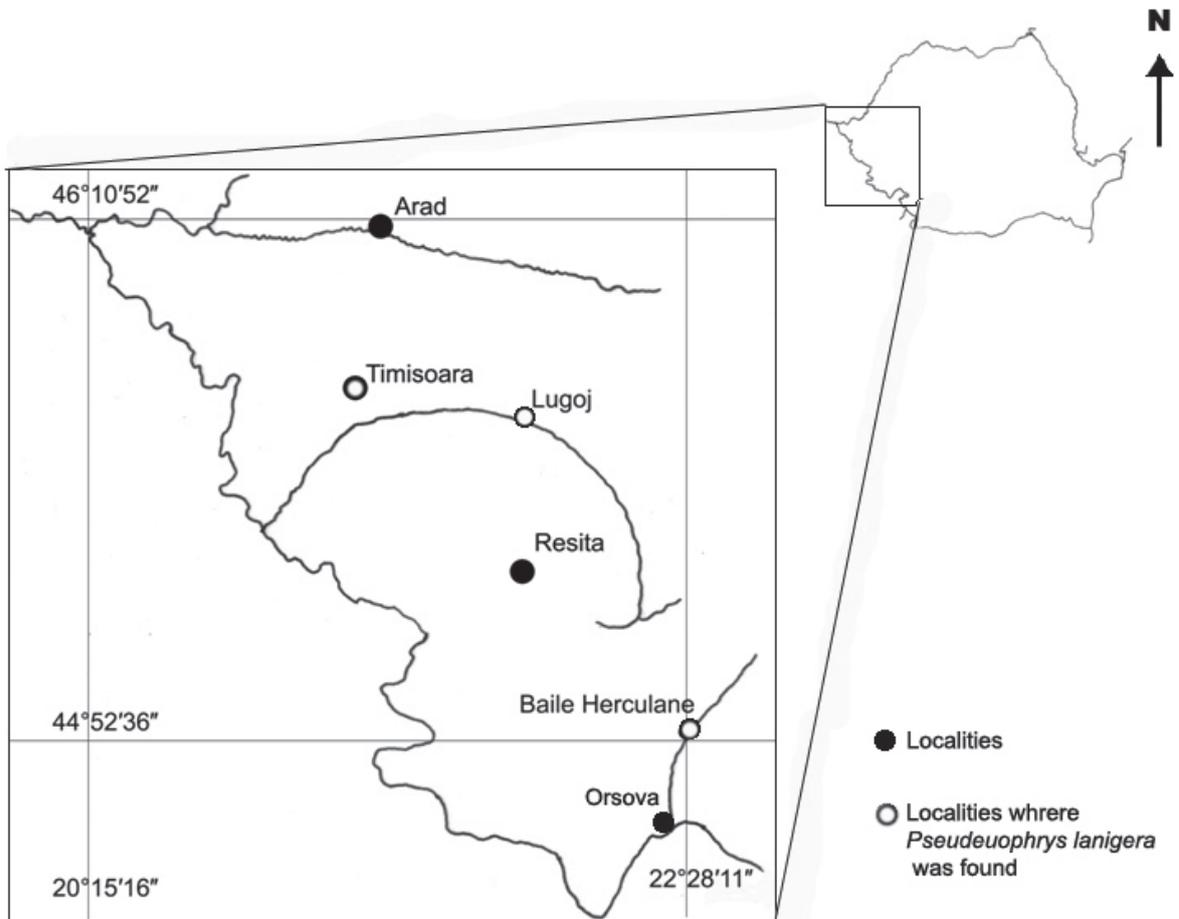


Fig 1. Distribution of *Pseudeuophrys lanigera* (Simon, 1871) in Romania

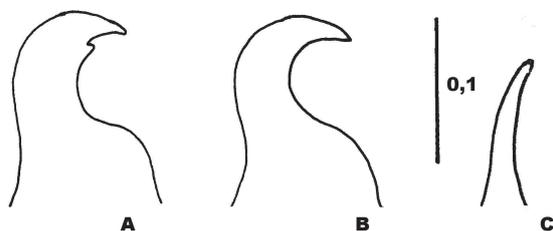


Fig. 2. The shape of tibial apophysis in *Pseudeuophrys lanigera* (Simon, 1871) (A, B) compared to *Pseudeuophrys vafra* (Blackwall, 1867) (C) (original).

Description of *Pseudeuophrys lanigera* (Simon, 1871) from Romania.

Male. Total length: 2,65 - 2,95 mm; carapace 1,3 - 1,55 mm long and 1,0 - 1,15 mm wide.

Carapace. Dorsally is dark brown with a median band of white hairs. The median band is narrow in the thoracic part and broad in the cephalic part. In the thoracic part the median band is bordered by redish-orange hairs (the color disappears in preserved specimens). The eyes of the anterior row are bordered by orange hairs. Clypeus is yellow-brown and covered with dense white hairs. Cheli-

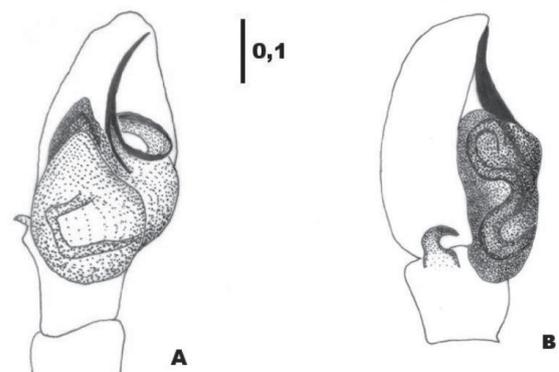


Fig. 3. *Pseudeuophrys lanigera* (Simon, 1871) from Romania: A. Left male palp, ventral view. B. Left male palp lateral view. (original)

cerae are redish-brown. Sternum is grayish brown whitout any pattern.

Abdomen. Dorsally has a light greysh white band that widens rearwards. This median band is bordered by brown orange hairs. Sides of the abdomen are greysh-brown. Venter is yellowish grey in live specimens and yellow in the preserved ones. The spinnerets are brown.

Legs. Yellowish-brown, with visible dark brown annulation on all segments (except the tarsus). The femora, patella and tibia of legs I and II are completely dark brown. On patella, tibia and metatarsus of legs III and IV the annulation is clearly visible. On all legs are present white and dark hairs.

Palp. Femur, patella, tibia and cymbium are yellowish and furnished with white hairs. The tibial apophysis has a characteristic hook like shape unlike in *P. vafra* where it is straight or slightly curved (Fig 2). Cymbium is short. The embolus is thin, long and coiled (fig 3).

We didn't found yet the female but the proof of the existence of *Pseudeuophrys lanigera* (Simon, 1871) in Romania is indubitable. We expect that in the future the female of this jumping spider will be captured and also that new distribution data of this species will be added on the map of Romania.

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