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Flora de la especie *Pelliciera benthamii* (Bahía de Cispatá-Colombia). Foto donada por Escilda R. Calonge

**FIRST RECORD OF THE GENUS *Descanso* Peckham & Peckham, 1892 (ARANEAE:
SALTICIDAE: DENDRYPHANTINI) IN THE COLOMBIAN CARIBBEAN**

**PRIMER REGISTRO DEL GÉNERO *Descanso* Peckham & Peckham, 1892 (ARANEAE:
SALTICIDAE: DENDRYPHANTINI) EN EL CARIBE COLOMBIANO**

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Abstract

This article documents, for the first time, the presence of the genus *Descanso* Peckham & Peckham, 1892 in the Colombian Caribbean. The record is based on specimens collected in a fragment of tropical dry forest in the rural area of Purísima, Córdoba Department, through vegetation beating and daytime direct collection. Additionally, we provide photographs of the specimens, images of male pedipalps, and a distribution map featuring both new and previously published records. This finding constitutes a significant contribution to the knowledge of jumping spider fauna of the Colombian Caribbean region.

Keywords: Arachnida, Biogeography, Córdoba, Synagelina, Jumping Spiders, Zoogeography.

Resumen

Este artículo documenta por primera vez, la presencia del género *Descanso* Peckham & Peckham, 1892 en el Caribe colombiano. El registro se basa en especímenes recolectados en un fragmento de bosque seco tropical en zona rural de Purísima, Departamento de Córdoba, mediante batido de vegetación y recolección directa diurna. Además, se presentan fotografías de los especímenes, imágenes de los pedipalpos masculinos, y se incluye un mapa de distribución con registros nuevos y publicados anteriormente. Este hallazgo representa un aporte significativo al conocimiento de la fauna de arañas saltadoras de la región Caribe colombiana.

Palabras claves: Arachnida, Biogeografía, Córdoba, Synagelina, Arañas Saltarinas, Zoogeografía.

INTRODUCTION

Salticidae Blackwall, 1841 is the most diverse family among spiders, currently with 687 genera and 6741 described species (World Spider Catalog, 2024). In Colombia, the salticid fauna is represented by 156 species and 67 genera (Metzner, 2024). Likewise, 32 species have been recorded for the Córdoba Department in dry forest, mangrove forest, savanna areas, swamps, and aquatic macrophytes areas (Bedoya-Roqueme & Lopez-Villada, 2020; Suarez-Martínez & Bedoya-Roqueme, 2021; Bedoya-Roqueme et al., 2022; Suarez-Martínez et al., 2022).

The tribe Dendryphantini diversified into more than 700 known species largely in the Americas (Maddison, 2015). This tribe is composed of four subtribes: Itatina Simon 1901; Synagelina F.O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1900; Marpissina Simon, 1901 and Dendryphantina Menge, 1879 of which the less diverse Synagelina, which includes the Neotropical and rare ant-like genus *Descanso* Peckham & Peckham, 1892 (Maddison, 2015). This genus has seven species accepted and described in Brazil, Colombia, Panama, and Peru (World Spider Catalog, 2024). Identification of *Descanso* species is based on their spiral embolus, the characteristic arrangement of the bulb and its sperm duct, as well as by the presence of a well-developed paracymbium. In the case of females, they are distinguished by their long copulatory ducts and anterior copulatory openings (Peckham & Peckham, 1892; Chickering, 1946; Galiano, 1986; Galvis & Muñoz-Charry, 2016).

The jumping spider *Descanso peregrinus* Chickering, 1946 is only known from Panamá,

and from the Andean Region of Colombia (Galvis & Muñoz-Charry, 2016; World Spider Catalog, 2024). Therefore, in this study, we report the first record of *D. peregrinus* for the Colombian Caribbean. Using different adult individuals, which were collected in a fragment of tropical dry forest in the north of the Córdoba Department.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study area. Specimens were collected from the foliage of shrubs belonging to the genus *Eugenia* P. Micheli ex L. (Myrtaceae) in the municipality of Purísima, located in the Córdoba Department of the Colombian Caribbean ($09^{\circ}18'06.0''N$, $075^{\circ}41'54.8''W$) (Fig. 1). The region generally has a semi-dry climate, with relative humidity exceeding 80% (Salazar, 2008; Salleg et al., 2016). Annual rainfall ranges from 1,198 to 1,550 mm, with the rainy season occurring from April to November. The peak rainfall typically occurs between August and September, while the dry season spans from December to March, with February being the month of lowest precipitation (Salleg et al., 2016).

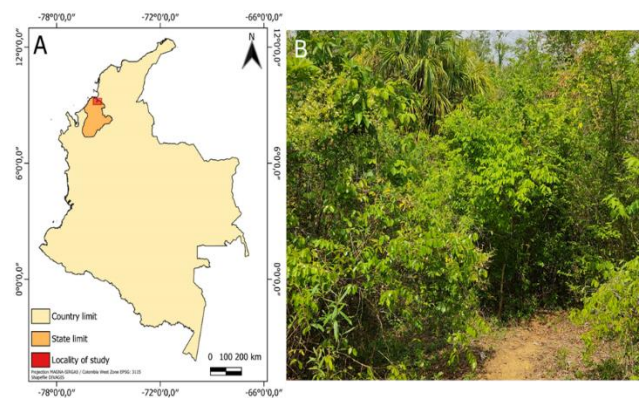


Figure 1. Map presenting: A. Location of the study area. B. Microhabitat recorded in this study for *Descanso peregrinus* Chickering, 1946.

Field phase. The sampling of jumping spiders was conducted during daylight hours (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.) using two methods: (1) direct collection from shrubs and bushes following Coddington et al. (1991), and (2) beating low vegetation or shaking tree branches, and collection of spiders with a 1 m² white ground cloth following Rubio et al. (2018). The collected specimens were preserved in bottles containing 70% alcohol.

Laboratory phase. The multifocal photographs of the genitalia were taken using an HD digital camera attached to a Carl Zeiss stereomicroscope and then merged with AxioVision Carl Zeiss SE64 (Rel. 4.9.1. SP3). Measurements are in millimeters and taken using a micrometer connected to a Carl Zeiss stereomicroscope, Axiostar, in conjunction with AxioVision Carl Zeiss SE64 software (Rel. 4.9.1. SP3). After the study, the examined material was deposited at the Entomology Laboratory of the University of Córdoba, Colombia (LEUC-OARA). The occurrence data were obtained through a review of scientific literature in the World Spider Catalog (2024). The maps were prepared using QGIS v.3.32.0. (QGIS 2023).

RESULTS

Taxonomy

Family Salticidae Blackwall, 1841

Subfamily Salticinae Blackwall, 1841

Tribe Dendryphantini Menge, 1879

Subtribe Synagelina F. O. Pickard-Cambridge, 1900

Descanso Peckham & Peckham, 1892

Descanso Peckham & Peckham, 1892: 72, type species: *Descanso vagus* Peckham & Peckham, 1892: 72, pl. 5, figs. 9a-c.

Diagnosis. For diagnosis and further taxonomic information, see Chickering (1946), Galiano (1986), Peckham & Peckham (1892).

Descanso peregrinus Chickering, 1946 (Figs. 2–3).

Descanso peregrinus Chickering, 1946: 435, f. 399-403; Galvis & Muñoz-Charry, 2016: 2, f. 1-13.

Material examined. 2 ♂, COLOMBIA: Córdoba: Purísima, 09°18'06.0"N, 075°41'54.8"W, 09-VIII-2022; L.A. Suárez Martínez leg. (LEUC; OARA–221).



Figure 2. *Descanso peregrinus* Chickering, 1946, from Purísima, Córdoba: A, male, dorsal view. B, male, lateral view. C, leg I. D, Carapace, lateral view. Scale bar: A–B= 1 mm; C–D= 0.5 mm.

Diagnosis and description. For diagnosis and further taxonomic information, see Chickering (1946) and Galvis & Muñoz-Charry (2016).

Description (LEUC; OARA–221). Carapace black with white hairs and a patch of metallic-white scales between legs II-III (Fig. 2A–D). Sternum, labium and endites black. Chelicerae:

small, dark brown with a fissidentated retromarginal and two tiny promarginal teeth. Palp with a hook-shaped paracymbium with are retrolateral tibial apophysis curved and long embolus (Fig. 3A–C). Legs I and II dark-brown, III and IV black, coxae II and IV white, I and IV tarsus white, tibia-metatarsus II white, and metatarsus-tarsus III white (Fig. 2A–C). Abdomen black with silvery hairs on the dorsum. (Fig. 2A).

Measurements. Males, TL= 3.56; CL= 1.64; AL= 1.77; CH= 0.55; CW= 1.10; AERW= 0.87; PERW= 1.09; LOQ= 0.74; PMEPE= 0.28; eyes of the second row separated from the ALE by 0.17 mm and from the PLE by 0.39 mm. Leg formula: 4132.

Variation among specimens examined (2♂). Body 3.25–3.56 long; carapace 1.51–1.64 long; 1.02–1.10 wide; abdomen 1.61–1.77 long.

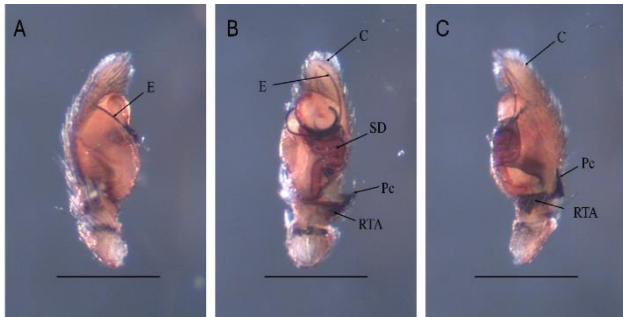


Figure 3. Male left pedipalp of *Descanso peregrinus* Chickering, 1946 from Purísima, Córdoba: A, prolateral view. B, ventral view. C, retrolateral view. Abbreviations: C= cymbium, E= embolus, Pc= paracymbium, RTA = retrolateral tibial apophysis, SD= sperm ducts. Scale bar: = 0.5 mm.

Distribution. Known from Panama, Canal Zone (Biological Area, Forest Reserve, Fort Sherman) (Chickering, 1946). In Colombia it has been recorded in Cundinamarca, La Mesa, Agroparque

Mutis (Galvis & Muñoz-Charry, 2016). Here, we report the first records of the species from Córdoba Department (Fig. 4).

Comments. Specimens were collected from the foliage of shrubs of the genus *Eugenia* P. Micheli ex L. (Myrtaceae), located in a fragment of tropical dry forest at 77 m alt., in the rural area of Purísima, Córdoba, in the Colombian Caribbean (Fig. 4). Within this microhabitat, they were found in association with other myrmecomorph jumping spiders of the genera *Sarinda* G. W. Peckham & E. G. Peckham, 1892, and *Sympolymnia* Perger & Rubio, 2020.



Figure 4. Known distribution of *Descanso peregrinus* Chickering, 1946, with a new record from Córdoba Department, Colombian Caribbean. Map credits: © OpenStreetMap contributors, with the base map and data from OpenStreetMap and the OpenStreetMap Foundation (background only).

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