

ON THE MALE OF *SPHODROS PAISANO*
(ARANEAE, ATYPIDAE)

Eight species (one *Atypus* and seven *Sphodros*) of atypid spiders are known from North America (Gertsch, W. J., and N. I. Platnick. 1980. Amer. Mus. Novit., 2704:1-39). Of these, all save one are known from both sexes; *Sphodros paisano* Gertsch and Platnick was described from females only. Material recently acquired from Drs. J. and S. Peck of Carleton University included the first known males of that species, described here. The format of the description follows that used in the revision; the illustrations are by Dr. M. U. Shadab.

Sphodros paisano Gertsch and Platnick
Figs. 1, 2

Sphodros paisano Gertsch and Platnick, 1980:20, figs. 20, 30, 31 (female holotype from Rancho El Milagro, Cruillas, Tamaulipas, Mexico, in Museum of Comparative Zoology, examined).

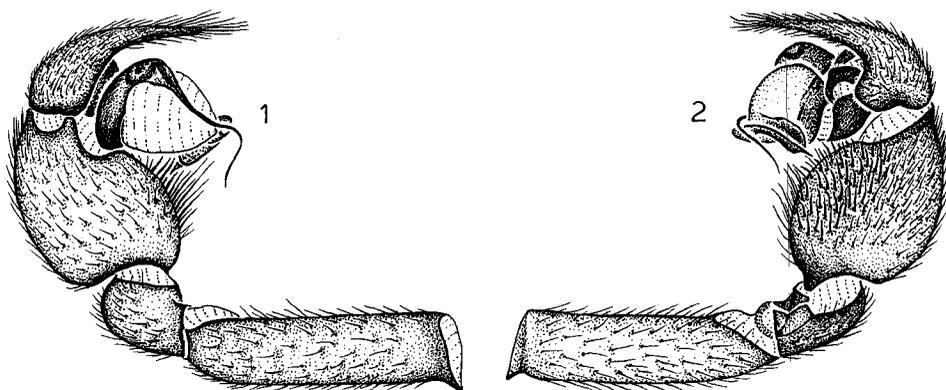
Diagnosis.—This species differs from all other known *Sphodros* except *S. abboti* Walckenaer in having four-segmented posterior lateral spinnerets; as the character appears during postembryonic development by subdivision of one of the three normal segments, it seems to be a synapomorphy linking the two species (with parallelism in some *Atypus*). Males of *S. paisano* can be distinguished from those of *S. abboti* by the wider ventral ledge on the palpal conductor (Fig. 2).

Male (Brownsville, Texas).—Total length, including chelicerae, 11.80. Carapace dark chestnut brown with ocular area darkest. Chelicerae dark brown dorsally, reddish brown ventrally; sternum, labium, and palpal coxae orangeish brown. Legs light brown except for orange tarsi and anterior metatarsi. Abdomen iridescent green to blue dorsally, with long, dark brown scutum covering two-thirds of dorsum; venter brown except for orangeish brown lung covers and medially lightened spinnerets.

Carapace 3.74 long, 3.24 wide, irregularly pitted and roughened, with only a few small setae along anterolateral edges, longest at middle, widest just behind eyes, smoothly narrowed posteriorly, emarginated above pedicel. Pars cephalica strongly elevated, set off by two posterolateral depressions, smoothly sloping posteriorly. Pars thoracica level, thoracic groove deep, subquadrate depression placed back three-fifths of carapace length, occupying one-eighth of carapace width at that point.

Eyes on elevated tubercle occupying almost one-third of front width. Ratio of eyes, anterior lateral: anterior median: posterior lateral: posterior median, 7:7:6:5. Anterior row slightly wider than posterior, procurved from front, recurved from above; medians separated by 1.5 times their diameter, by slightly more than their diameter from anterior laterals. Posterior row recurved; medians separated by 4.5 times their diameter, by one-fifth their diameter from posterior laterals. Median ocular quadrangle wider than long (16/7), narrowed in front (16/11).

Sternum 2.27 long, 2.05 wide; labium 0.45 long, 0.75 wide; both clothed evenly with short, erect, black hairs. Sternum with eight sigilla, smallest pair at base of labium, other pairs progressively larger, situated at level of posterior edges of coxae I, II, and III, posterior pair separated by their length, farther from margins



Figs. 1, 2.—Left male palp of *Sphodros paisano*: 1, prolateral view; 2, retrolateral view.

of sternum. Median edge of palpal coxae with two rows of long spinules followed laterally by few irregular rows of small spinules. Chelicerae twice as long as wide at middle, strongly elevated dorsally for most of length, flat prolaterally, set with thick, strong setae distally; promargin with nine strong teeth, most proximal greatly reduced in size; retromargin with thin band of black hairs.

Leg formula 4123. Legs slender, evenly clothed with short, black hairs, with spines restricted to venter except for few dorsal spines on metatarsi (most numerous on legs II and III). Tarsi long, flexible, distal three-quarters with numerous false articulations, ventral surfaces with short, curved spines at sides (most numerous on legs III and IV). Unpaired tarsal claws small, armed with single weak tooth (strongest on leg IV); paired claws small, usually with five teeth in single row. Leg measurements in mm:

	I	II	III	IV	Palp
Femur	3.26	2.65	2.27	3.01	2.21
Patella	1.26	1.26	1.17	1.33	0.83
Tibia	1.75	1.45	1.48	2.09	1.37
Metatarsus	2.59	2.23	2.61	3.31	—
Tarsus	2.09	2.12	2.09	2.59	1.52
Total	10.95	9.71	9.62	12.33	5.93

Palp (Figs. 1, 2) with long, curved conductor folded ventrally to produce wide ledge, bearing long, curved embolus; tibia incrassate, almost as high as long, with retrolateral clump of spines.

Abdomen 3.73 long, 2.77 wide, clothed with weak, black hairs. Six spinnerets: anterior laterals slender, 0.38 long; posterior medians separated by two-thirds their basal width, 0.47 long; four-segmented posterior laterals with lengths as follows: basal 0.47, median 0.61, subapical 0.48, apical 0.54, total 2.10.

New Record.—UNITED STATES: Texas: Cameron Co.: Sabal Palm Grove, Brownsville, May 31-Aug. 10, 1983 (S. and J. Peck), 2 males, deposited in the American Museum of Natural History.

Distribution.—Texas and Tamaulipas, Mexico.

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