

**A *SATHROCHTHONIUS* NORTH OF THE EQUATOR
(PSEUDOSCORPIONIDA, CHTHONIIDAE)**

The genus *Sathrochthonius* was established by J. C. Chamberlin (1962) on the basis of *S. tuena*, n. sp., from near Sydney, N.S.W., Australia. Subsequently, 2 other species were described from Australia (*S. crassidens* Beier, 1966a, from New South Wales, and *S. webbi* Muchmore, 1982, from Queensland), 1 species from New Caledonia (*S. kaltenbachii* Beier, 1966b), and 2 species from New Zealand (*S. maoricus* and *S. insulanus* Beier, 1976). Unexpectedly, a species was discovered in central Chile (*S. pefauri* Vitali-di Castri, 1974); and now a new *Sathrochthonius* has been found in southeastern Venezuela at latitude 5°N.

***Sathrochthonius venezuelanus*, new species**

Figs. 1-3

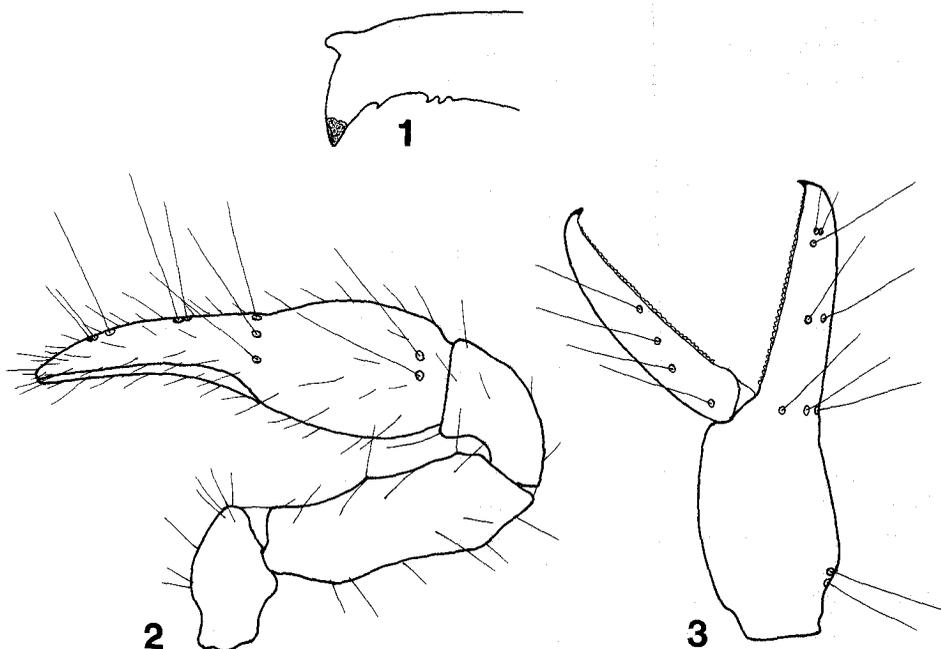
Type data.—Holotype female (WM7067.01001), from VENEZUELA: Bolivar, La Gran Sabana, 9 km from Chivatón Hotel toward Kavanayén (about 5°30'N, 61°30'W), (1370 m), 29 June 1987, (M. A. Ivie), under bark of dead tree; deposited in Florida State Collection of Arthropods, Gainesville.

Diagnosis.—A 2-eyed species much like *S. pefauri* but smaller (palpal femur < 0.45 mm), with a distinct spinneret on the movable finger of the chelicera, and with no trace of coxal spines or granulations on pedal coxae.

Description of female holotype (male unknown).—Generally typical of the genus (Chamberlin 1962:303). Body and appendages pale tan. Carapace mostly smooth, finely reticulated laterally; entire anterior margin finely denticulated, slightly depressed at middle, with no obvious epistome; 2 corneate eyes; chaetotaxy 6-4-4-2-2. Coxal area typical except that there are no coxal spines and no granulations on any of the coxae; chaetotaxy 2-2-3-2-6-2-6(7):2-8-2-9; intercoxal tubercle bisetose. Abdomen typical; tergites and sternites smooth; tergal chaetotaxy 6:6:8:9:9:8:8:8:8:8:T2T:0; sternal chaetotaxy 10:(3)10(3):(2)10(2):11:11:11:12:9:10:0:2.

Chelicera 0.65 as long as carapace; hand with 6 setae; flagellum of about 10 pinnate setae; spinneret a distinct projection from movable finger (Fig. 1); serrula exterior of about 18 blades.

Palp robust (Fig. 2); femur 3.15, tibia 1.9, and chela 3.3 times as long as broad; hand 1.6 times as long as deep; movable finger 1.16 times as long as hand. Surfaces smooth except for small granules on bases of chelal fingers and some elevated setal areoles on femur and trochanter. Trichobothria as shown in Fig. 3.



Figures 1-3.—*Sathrochthonius venezuelanus*, n. sp., holotype: 1, tip of movable finger of chelicera; 2, right palp, dorsal view; 3, left chela, lateral view.

Fixed chelal finger with 37 teeth, all cusped; movable finger with 39 teeth, cusped distally and proximally but rounded in middle of row; fixed finger with an accessory denticle on internal surface near distal end.

Legs typical. Leg IV with entire femur 2.6 and tibia 3.65 times as long as deep; tactile seta near proximal end of both basitarsus and telotarsus; telotarsus lacking a tooth at distal end of upper margin.

Measurements (mm).—Body length 1.30. Carapace 0.45/0.43. Palpal trochanter 0.215/0.125; femur 0.41/0.13; tibia 0.245/0.13; chela 0.63/0.19; hand 0.32/0.20; movable finger 0.37 long. Leg IV: entire femur 0.40/0.155; tibia 0.31/0.085; basitarsus 0.14/0.06; telotarsus 0.245/0.05.

Remarks.—It was a great surprise to find this specimen in a collection from Venezuela, as *Sathrochthonius* has been known in the Western Hemisphere only from central Chile, well south of the equator. Evidently the genus is distributed over a great area of South America, not confined to the southwestern part, to the *Nothofagus* forest, as suggested by Vitali-di Castri (1973, 1974). Additional collecting may well show that *Sathrochthonius*, like *Austrochthonius*, is represented in South Africa as well (cf. Vitali-di Castri, 1973).

Sathrochthonius venezuelanus does not possess the small tooth at the end of the upper margin of telotarsus IV as described by Vitali-di Castri for *S. pefauri* (1974:199 and fig. 10). However, reexamination of some paratypes of *S. webbi* Muchmore (1982) reveals the presence of such a projection in that Australian species. Here, the “tooth” is actually a spinelike projection of the rim of the areole of the large terminal seta of the upper tarsal margin, not an extension of the tarsal surface itself. Such an elaboration of the terminal areole is more or less developed in some other chthoniids as well (personal observation). And it is

similar to the projection of the areoles of the coxal spines in the North American genera *Apochthonius* and *Kleptochthonius* (cf. Benedict and Malcolm 1973).

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