

ON THE SPIDER GENUS *FEDOTOVIA* (ARANEAE, GNAPHOSIDAE)

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Abstract. *Fedotovia* Charitonov is removed from the synonymy of the laroniine genus *Eilica* and placed as a valid member of the subfamily Gnaphosinae. Males of the type species, *F. uzbekistanica* Charitonov, are described for the first time, and the species is newly recorded from Kazakhstan and Mongolia.

The spider genus *Fedotovia* was established by Charitonov (1946) for a single female from Ishkent, Uzbekistan, described as *F. uzbekistanica*. In his original description, Charitonov provided no comments on the possible relationships or subfamilial placement of *Fedotovia*, but later (Charitonov 1969) he placed the genus in the "Gnaphoseae," comparing it with *Asemesthes* Simon and *Gnaphosoides* Hogg. The latter name was synonymized with the laroniine gnaphosid genus *Eilica* Keyserling by Platnick (1975); Platnick and Shadab (1981) subsequently placed *Fedotovia* as a synonym of *Eilica* as well. That synonymy, however, was not based on an examination of the type specimen, but only on figures of the eye pattern and epigynum of *F. uzbekistanica* provided by Charitonov (1946).

We have recently had the opportunity to examine Charitonov's type, as well as newly collected specimens, which indicate that despite the numerous striking epigynal similarities with *Eilica* (including the shape of the lateral epigynal margins, the twisted posterior epigynal ducts, and the coiled median epigynal ducts), *Fedotovia* is neither a synonym of *Eilica* nor a member of the Laroniinae. It lacks the retromarginal cheliceral laminae characteristic of that subfamily and has instead the retromarginal serrated keel characteristic of the subfamily Gnaphosinae. Males, newly described here, have an elaborate palpal embolus unlike those of previously described gnaphosine genera, and we therefore consider *Fedotovia* a valid genus of the Gnaphosinae.

The removal of *Fedotovia* from the list of generic synonyms of *Eilica* (which thus includes

only *Baeriella* Simon, *Caridrassus* Bryant, *Gnaphosoides* Hogg, *Gytha* Keyserling, and *Laronia* Simon) returns the distribution of *Eilica* to a more normal Gondwanan pattern, including only species from Africa, India, Australia, and southern parts of the Americas.

The format of the descriptions and abbreviations used follow those of Platnick and Shadab (1975); all measurements are in mm.

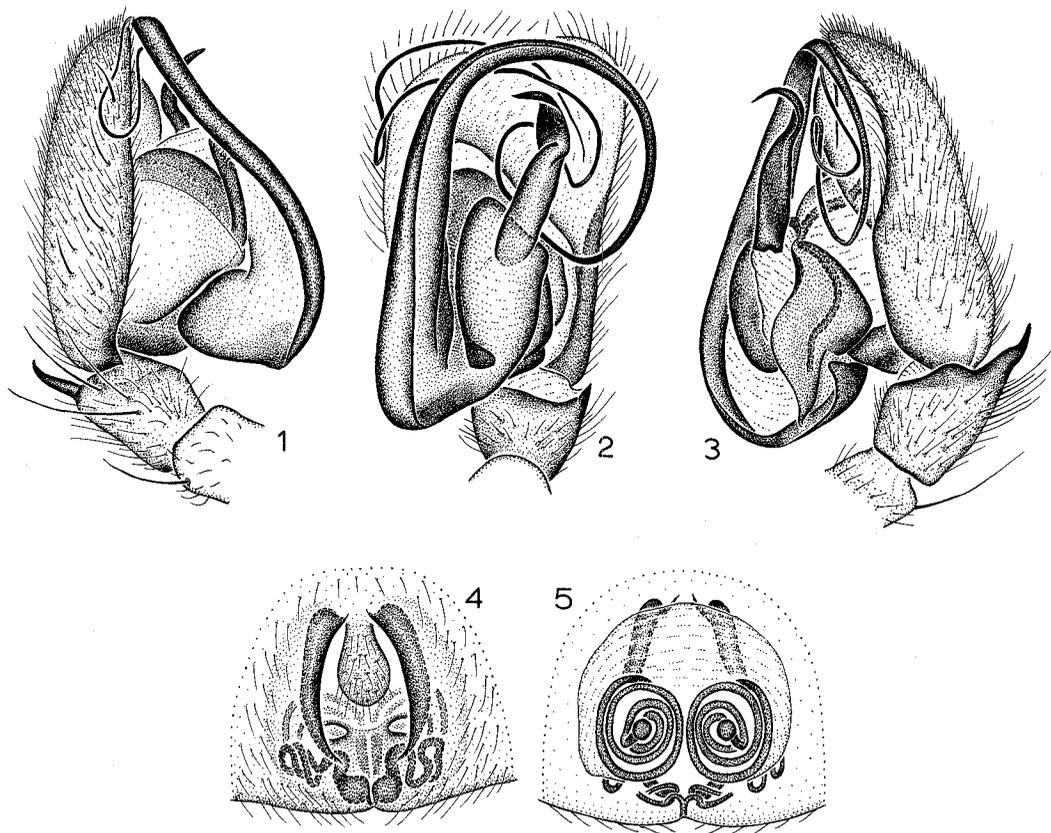
Fedotovia Charitonov

Fedotovia Charitonov, 1946:24 (type species by original designation *Fedotovia uzbekistanica* Charitonov, 1946); Charitonov, 1969:98.

Eilica: Platnick and Shadab, 1981:184 (in part).

Diagnosis.—Specimens of *Fedotovia* resemble those of the African gnaphosine genus *Asemesthes* in having a strongly recurved posterior eye row, and median eyes that are much smaller than the lateral pairs, and will therefore key out to *Asemesthes* in the key by Dalmas (1921). Males can be distinguished from those of *Asemesthes* by the shorter tibial apophysis and the greatly elongated embolus (Figs. 1-3), females by the median epigynal scape (Fig. 4).

Description.—Total length 5-7. Carapace almost triangular in dorsal view, widest between coxae II and III, flattened, smoothly narrowed opposite palpal insertions, light brown with darkened posterior margin and rows of stiff setae radiating from thoracic groove. Cephalic area not elevated, thoracic groove short, straight, longitudinal. From front, anterior eye row straight, posterior row recurved; from above, anterior row



Figures 1–5.—*Fedotovia uzbekistanica* Charitonov: 1, left male palp, prolateral view; 2 same, ventral view; 3, same, retrolateral view; 4, epigynum, ventral view; 5, same, dorsal view.

slightly recurved, posterior row strongly recurved. PME flattened, irregularly triangular, AME circular, ALE and PLE oval; PME and AME subequal, much smaller than lateral eyes; PME separated by less than their diameter, by more than their diameter from PLE; AME separated by about their diameter, about as far from ALE; MOQ slightly wider in back than in front, longer than wide. Clypeal height roughly equal to ALE width. Chelicerae with serrated keel on retromargin bearing four or five teeth; promargin with two closely set teeth. Endites obliquely depressed, distally rounded but not as convergent as in *Gnaphosa*, with anterolateral serrula. Labium long, extending two-thirds of endite length. Sternum light brown with darkened, rebordered margins and tiny sclerotized extensions to and between coxae. Leg formula 4123. Legs light brown, bearing numerous spines. Tarsi with two elongate claws dentate only at their base, without claw tufts; tarsi and distal portions of metatarsi I and II with thick, dark scopula; metatarsi with

out preening combs; trochanters unnotched. Abdomen grayish brown, males with small, shiny, triangular anterior scutum. Six spinnerets; anterior laterals with six or seven long piriform gland spigots set posteriorly from major ampullate gland spigots; posterior medians short, tubular in males but widened and reflexed anteriorly in females. Male palp with short tibial apophysis shifted dorsally, strong, distally hook-shaped median apophysis, and elaborately coiling embolus. Epigynum with pair of longitudinal lateral margins and median scape; epigynal ducts twisted, transversely oriented along posterior epigynal margin, in large circular coils medially.

Distribution.—Known only from arid habitats in the USSR (Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan) and Mongolia.

Fedotovia uzbekistanica Charitonov
Figs. 1–5

Fedotovia uzbekistanica Charitonov, 1946:24, figs. 31, 32 (female holotype from Ishkent, Uzbekistan, USSR,

in University of Perm, examined); Charitonov, 1969: 98.

Diagnosis.—With the characters of the genus and genitalia as in Figures 1–5.

Male.—Total length 6.11. Carapace 2.81 long, 2.18 wide. Femur II 2.10 long. Eye sizes and interdistances: AME 0.05, ALE 0.14, PME 0.12, PLE 0.17; AME-AME 0.12, AME-ALE 0.05, PME-PME 0.06, PME-PLE 0.11, ALE-PLE 0.13; MOQ length 0.33, front width 0.22, back width 0.30. Leg spination (only surfaces bearing spines listed): femora: I, II d1-1-0, p0-1-1; III, IV d1-1-0, p0-1-1, r0-1-1; patellae III, IV p0-1-0, r0-1-0; tibiae: I v2-2-2; II p0-0-1, v1r-2-2; III d1-0-0, p2-1-1, v2-2-2, r2-1-1; IV d1-0-1, p2-1-1, v2-2-2, r2-1-1; metatarsi: I, II v2-0-0; III d1-0-0, p1-2-2, v2-2-2, r1-1-2; IV d1-0-0, p1-2-2, v2-1p-2, r1-2-2. Palpal embolus originating basally, extending over retrolateral surface of cymbium, curling back to ventral surface of bulb distally (Figs. 1–3).

Female.—Total length 5.67. Carapace 2.44 long, 2.03 wide. Femur II 1.75 long. Eye sizes and interdistances: AME 0.08, ALE 0.17, PME 0.12, PLE 0.13; AME-AME 0.10, AME-ALE 0.04, PME-PME 0.03, PME-PLE 0.13, ALE-PLE 0.09; MOQ length 0.30, front width 0.26, back width 0.27. Leg spination as in male, except as noted: patellae III, IV p0-0-0; tibiae: II p0-0-0; III p1-1-1; IV d1-0-0; metatarsus III d0-0-0, p0-2-2. Median epigynal scape situated between lateral epigynal margins (Fig. 4); epigynal ducts irregularly twisted posteriorly, coiled medially (Fig. 5).

Specimens examined (in Zoological Institute, Leningrad, unless otherwise indicated).—**USSR:** *Kazakhstan:* Chimkentskaya: Aksumbe, Karatau Mountains, Suzakskii region, 16 June 1989 (A. A. Zyuzin), 5 females. *Gurievskaia:* Baskargan Steppe, Ustyurt Plateau, Ustyurt Reserva-

tion, 15–28 May 1989 (A. A. Raikhanov, S. I. Ibraev), 2 males, 6 females. *Kzil-Orda:* Dzhusamly, Karmakchinskii region, clay desert, 19 June 1989 (A. A. Zyuzin), 1 female. *Uzbekistan:* Yakkabag: Ishkent, elev. 1100–1300 m, 26 June 1942 (D. M. Fedotov), 1 female (holotype, University of Perm). **MONGOLIA:** *Bayan Khongor Aimak:* Ekhingol, 30 Aug. 1977 (K. Monkhbayar), 1 female.

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