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***Butheoloides cimrmani* sp. n. from Ghana
(Scorpiones: Buthidae)**

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Abstract

Butheoloides cimrmani sp. n. is described and compared with the closely related *B. charlotteae* Lourenço, 2000 from Nigeria, which differs from *B. cimrmani* sp. n. by the absence of black spots on femora of all legs. Distribution-wise, the nearest species is *B. annieae* Lourenço, 1986 from Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), which differs from *B. cimrmani* sp. n. in having the fifth metasomal segment granulate, whereas in *B. cimrmani* sp. n. it is punctate. *B. cimrmani* sp. n. is the first species of the genus recorded from Ghana.

Keywords: Taxonomy, description, new species, Scorpiones, Buthidae, *Butheoloides cimrmani* sp. n., Ghana.

***Butheoloides cimrmani* sp. n.**
(Figs. 1-2, Table 1)

TYPE LOCALITY AND TYPE DEPOSITORY. **Ghana**, Sogakofe env. (~ 05° 58'N, 00° 35'E); author's collection (FKCP).

TYPE MATERIAL. **Ghana**, Sogakofe env., IV.1972, male holotype preserved in 75% alcohol. Collector uncertain, possibly Jára Cimrman during one of his many trips to Ghana. No other material.

ETYMOLOGY: Named after Jára Cimrman, a well known Czech renaissance man.

DIAGNOSIS: Total length 23.2 mm. Carapace and mesosoma brown with black spots, mesosoma with median longitudinal yellow strip. Legs yellow with black spots on femur and patella. Femur and patella of pedipalp yellow, manus of chela brown with pronounced black pattern. Fingers of pedipalp chela yellow. Chelicerae yellow with dark reticulation. Fourth and fifth metasomal segments smooth and sparsely punctate (Fig. 1). Pectinal teeth number 15.

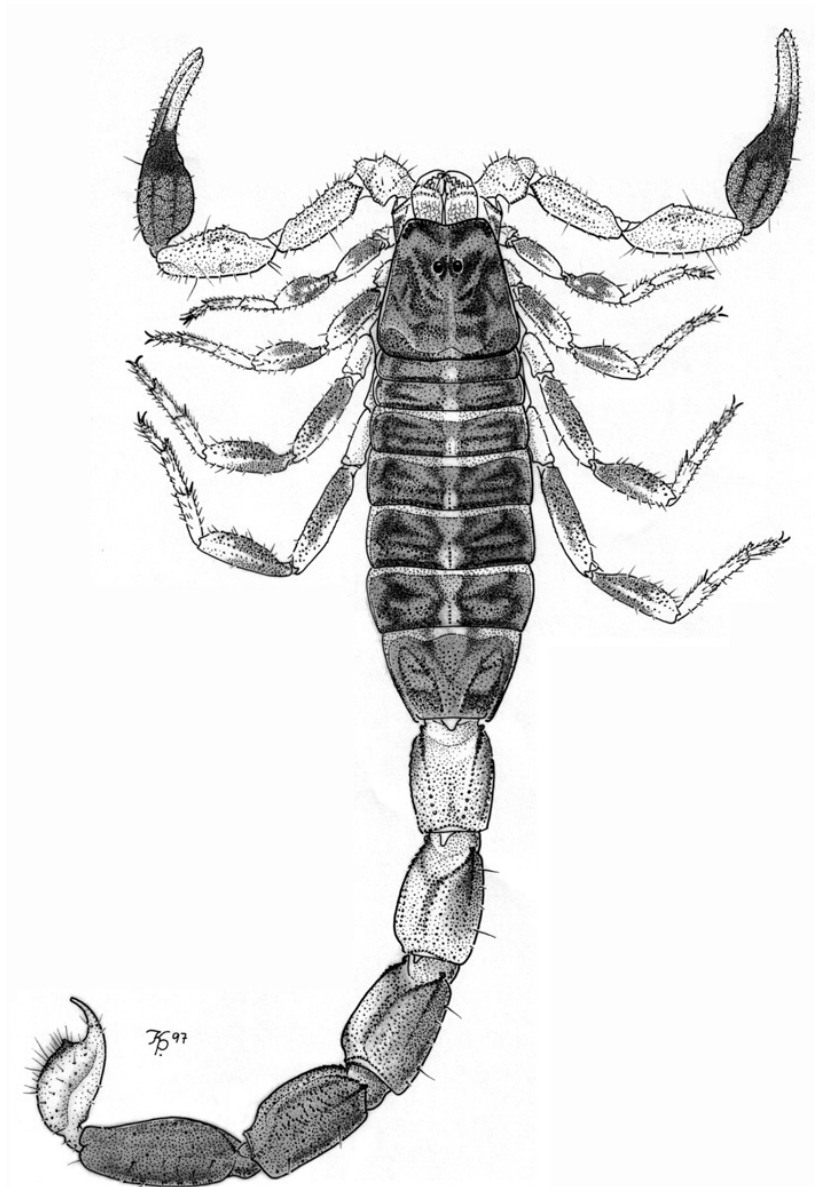


Fig. 1. *Butheoloides cimrmani* sp. n., male holotype, dorsal view.

DESCRIPTION: The holotype is an adult male 23.2 mm long. Measurements of the carapace, telson, segments of the metasoma and segments of the pedipalps, and numbers of pectinal teeth are given in Table 1. Habitus is shown in Fig. 1.

COLOURATION: Carapace and mesosoma are brown with black spots, and the mesosoma bears a median longitudinal yellow strip. The ventral surface of the mesosoma and pectines are yellow. Legs are yellow with black spots on femur and patella. The first two segments of metasoma and telson are yellowish brown, the third metasomal segment is brownish black, and the fourth and fifth metasomal segments are black. The femur and patella of pedipalp are yellow with several small dark spots on the ventral surface, and the manus of chela is brown with a conspicuous black pattern. Fingers of pedipalp chela are yellow. Chelicerae are yellow with dark reticulation, which is anteriorly reduced to several small, transversely aligned dark spots (Fig. 1).

MESOSOMA: Tergites have one medial keel on the fourth to seventh segments. Each tergite is finely granulated, with the granules posteriorly becoming larger and pointed. Sternites are smooth, without keels. The pectinal tooth count is 15.

Table 1. Measurements (in millimetres) of male holotype of *Butheoloides cimrmani* sp. n.

<i>Butheoloides cimrmani</i> sp. n. male holotype		
Total	length	23.2
Carapace	length	2.4
	width	2.3
Metasoma segment I	length	13.6
	length	1.7
segment II	width	1.4
	length	2.1
segment III	width	1.4
	length	2.1
segment IV	width	1.4
	length	2.4
segment V	width	1.4
	length	2.6
telson	width	1.4
	length	2.2
Pedipalp		
femur	length	2.1
	width	0.6
patella	length	2.5
	width	0.9
tibia	length	4.0
	width	1.1
finger mov.	length	2.2
Pectinal teeth		15:15

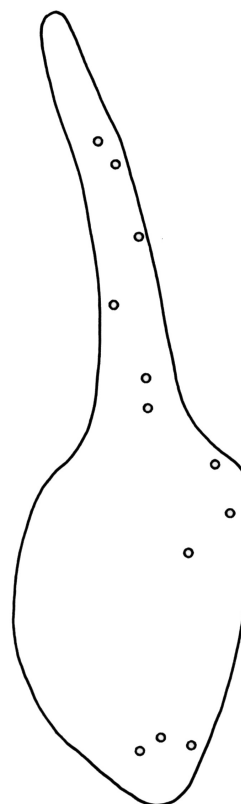


Fig. 2. *Butheoloides cimrmani* sp. n., male holotype, tibia of pedipalp.

METASOMA: All segments are without keels. The first and second segments are tuberculate and granulate, the third segment is only slightly tuberculate and sparsely punctate, the fourth and fifth segments are smooth and sparsely punctate, and the telson is smooth, with a characteristic subaculear tubercle.

PEDIPALPS: The femur of pedipalp has two dorsal granulose keels and two incomplete ventral keels. The entire femur is granulated. The patella is largely smooth, without keels, and with granulation restricted to dorsal and lateral surfaces. The chela is entirely smooth, without keels and granules. For the position and distribution of trichobothria on the chela see Fig. 2. The movable fingers of pedipalps bear 10 rows of granules which terminate in two external granules, and each row also has one internal granule.

AFFINITIES. The described features distinguish *B. cimrmani* sp. n. from all other species of the genus. *B. cimrmani* sp. n. is the only species of the genus recorded from Ghana, and appears to be closely related to *B. charlotteae* Lourenço, 2000 from Nigeria. *B. cimrmani* sp. n. differs from *B. charlotteae* by the presence of black spots on the femora of all legs (Fig. 1 and fig. 6 in Lourenço, 2000: 131) and fine reticulation on the chelicerae (Fig. 1). Distribution-wise, the nearest species is *B. annieae* Lourenço, 1986 from Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast). It has the fifth metasomal segment granulate, whereas in *B. cimrmani* sp. n. this segment is punctate.

Reference

Lourenço, W. 2000. Confirmation d'une espèce nouvelle appartenant au genre *Butheoloides* Hirst, du Nigeria (Scorpiones, Buthidae). *Rev. Arachnol.* **13(9)**: 129-133.