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# *Euthycaelus janae*, a new species and the first record of the subfamily Schismatothelinae from Peru (Araneae: Theraphosidae)

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## Keywords:

taxonomy;  
museums;  
ecoregion;  
Peruvian Amazon;  
tarantula.

**Abstract.** – *Euthycaelus janae* sp. nov. is described from Pebas, Peru based on a holotype female in the Natural History Museum, London, simultaneously constituting the first record of the subfamily Schismatothelinae Guadanucci, 2014 in Peru.

Sherwood D. & Gabriel R., 2022. – *Euthycaelus janae*, a new species and the first record of the subfamily Schismatothelinae from Peru (Araneae: Theraphosidae). *Faunitaxys*, 10(49): 1 – 4.

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## Introduction

The genus *Euthycaelus* Simon, 1889 currently contains six species (WSC, 2022): *E. amandae* Guadanucci & Weinmann, 2014 and *E. guane* Valencia-Cuellar, Perafán & Guadanucci, 2019 from Colombia, *E. norae* Guadanucci & Weinmann, 2014 from Colombia and Venezuela, *E. astutus* (Simon, 1889) and *E. colonica* Simon, 1889 (the type species) from Venezuela, and *E. quinteroi* Gabriel & Sherwood, 2022 from Panama. Of these, all but *E. guane* are known from both sexes, with *E. guane* known only from the male. Hitherto, *Euthycaelus*, and the subfamily Schismatothelinae Guadanucci, 2014 generally, has not been reported from Peru.

In this work, we describe a new species of *Euthycaelus* from Peru based on a holotype female found in the collections of the Natural History Museum, London. We thus report the subfamily Schismatothelinae from Peru for the first time.

## Materials and methods

Specimens were examined under binocular microscopes. Photographs of the spermatheca were made using a Leica M125C auto-montage. Description style follows Sherwood *et al.* (2020). Leg formulae start with the longest leg to the shortest in order of decreasing size, e.g., 4,1,2,3. All measurements are in mm. The map was made using SimpleMappr (Shorthouse, 2010). Authors' emphases in [ ].

## Abbreviations

### Institutes:

BMNH = Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom.

### Structures:

ALE = anterior lateral eyes,

AME = anterior median eyes,

BP = basal projection;

PLE = posterior lateral eyes,

PME = posterior median eyes;

RCB = receptacle bridge.

### Other:

Purch. = purchased;

WSC = World Spider Catalog.

Abbreviations for museum collections follow Evenhuis (2007). Leg spine terminology follows Petrunkevitch (1925) with the modifications proposed by Bertani (2001):

d = dorsal,

v = ventral,

r = retrolateral,

p = prolateral.

In accordance with Article 8 of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN, 1999), this work was registered in ZooBank prior to publication.

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## Taxonomic treatment

### *Euthycaelus janae* sp. nov.

(Fig. 1-2)

ZooBank: <http://zoobank.org/98F5DC4F-3B07-4184-B379-36B4C310EA91>

**Holotype**, ♀ (BMNH/1914.9.4.3), Pebas, Peru, “Purch. of Rosenberg” [collection date and collector unknown].

**Diagnosis.** – *Euthycaelus janae* sp. nov. can be distinguished from congeners by spermathecal morphology, namely from *E. colonica* (Fig. 3) and *E. norae* (Fig. 4) by the RCB more than 1.0 times wider than the width of the receptacle and the more rounded appearance of the receptacles, from *E. amandae* (Fig. 5) and *E. quinteroi* (Fig. 6) by the receptacles less high than wide, and from *E. astutus* (see Mori & Bertani, 2020: 117, Fig. 315) by the absence of stalks on the spermathecae.

**Etymology.** – The specific epithet is a matronym in honour of Jan Beccaloni (Natural History Museum, London) in recognition of her more than 30 years of sterling service at the museum and of her immense support and loyal friendship to the authors for many years.

### **Description of holotype** ♀ (BMNH 1914.9.4.3)

– **Total length** including chelicerae: 26.2. – **Carapace**: 13.1 long, 10.0 wide. – **Caput**: raised. – **Ocular tubercle**: slightly raised, 1.1 long, 2.4 wide. – **Eyes**: ALE > AME, AME > PLE, PLE > PME, anterior row procurved, posterior row recurved. – **Clypeus**: 0.2; clypeal fringe: long. – **Fovea**: deep, transverse. – **Chelicera**: 5.5 long, 2.5 wide. – **Abdomen**: 7.6 long, 5.3 wide. – **Maxilla** with 90–110 cuspules, covering approximately 27% of proximal edge. – **Labium**: 1.5 long, 2.3 wide, with 170–190 labial cuspules most separated by 0.5–1.0 times the width of a single cuspule. – **Labio-sternal mounds**: joined. – **Sternum**: 5.7 long, 4.2 wide, with 3 pairs of sigilla. – **Tarsi** I–II fully scopulate, tarsus III divided by band of setae, tarsus IV uninterpretable [missing on both sides]. – **Metatarsal scopulae**: I 77%; II 88%; III 48%; IV 47%. Lengths of leg and palpal segments: see table 1, legs 4,1,2,3. – **Spination**: tibia II v 0–1–2, III d 1–0–2, v 0–0–3, IV d 1–1–0, v 1–2–2, palp v 0–0–1, metatarsus I v 1–0–2, II v 1–0–3 (apical), III d 1–2–2, v 1–1–3 (apical), IV d 1–2–1, v 1–2–4 (3 apical). Posterior lateral spinnerets uninterpretable, missing. – **Spermatheca** with two rounded, short, hypersclerotized receptacles, connected by hypersclerotised RCB *ca.* 1.2 times receptacle width, BP hypersclerotised, short (Fig. 1–2). – **Colour**: alcohol preserved brown.

**Distribution.** – Pebas, Peru (Fig. 7).

**Remarks.** – The only congener of which the female is unknown is *E. guane* but given the distribution of this species only in Colombia, disjunct from the type locality of *E. janae* sp. nov. and considering the numerous ecoregional barriers between these localities (Dinerstein *et al.*, 2017), we discounted the possibility that *E. janae* sp. nov. was the undescribed female of *E. guane*. The new species is known only from the Peruvian Amazon, specifically in the Solimões–Japurá moist forests ecoregion (per Dinerstein *et al.*, 2017).

|                   | I    | II   | III  | IV     | Palp |
|-------------------|------|------|------|--------|------|
| <b>Femur</b>      | 9.1  | 8.0  | 7.1  | 9.9    | 6.6  |
| <b>Patella</b>    | 6.0  | 5.1  | 4.1  | 5.0    | 3.9  |
| <b>Tibia</b>      | 6.8  | 5.4  | 4.6  | 7.3    | 4.7  |
| <b>Metatarsus</b> | 5.6  | 5.3  | 5.7  | 9.5    | –    |
| <b>Tarsus</b>     | 4.0  | 4.0  | 3.9  | *      | 4.5  |
| <b>Total</b>      | 31.5 | 27.8 | 25.4 | ≥ 31.7 | 19.7 |

**Table 1.** *Euthycaelus janae* sp. nov. holotype ♀, podomere lengths.

\* = missing segment

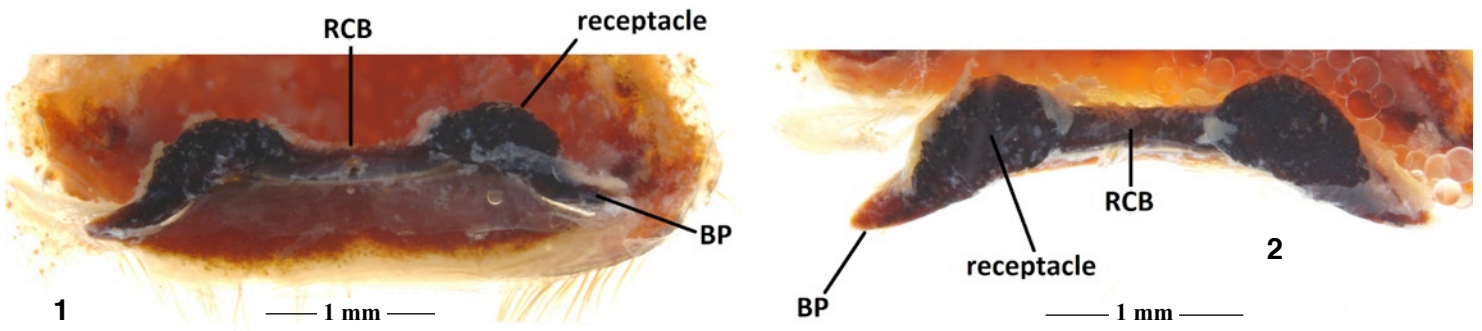
≥ = total length calculated based solely on measurements of known segments in each case and thus will differ from true total length.

## Acknowledgements

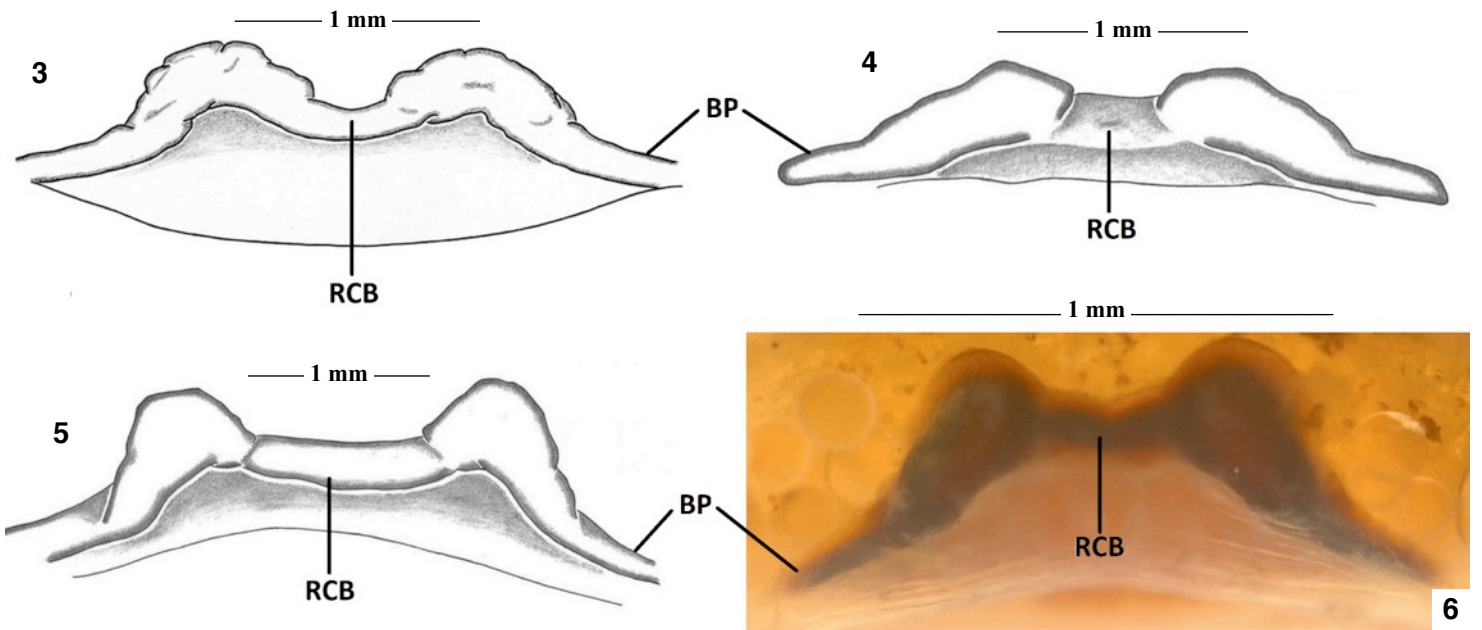
We would like to thank Jan Beccaloni (BMNH) for allowing access to the museum collections and Zoë Simmons, James Hogan, and Amoret Spooner (Oxford University Museum of Natural History) for allowing use of the auto-montage at OUMNH. We also thank José Guadanucci (Universidade Estadual Paulista) for allowing us to use his excellent drawings, and Yuri Marusik (University of Turku) and Michael Dierkens (France) whose comments improved the contents of the manuscript.

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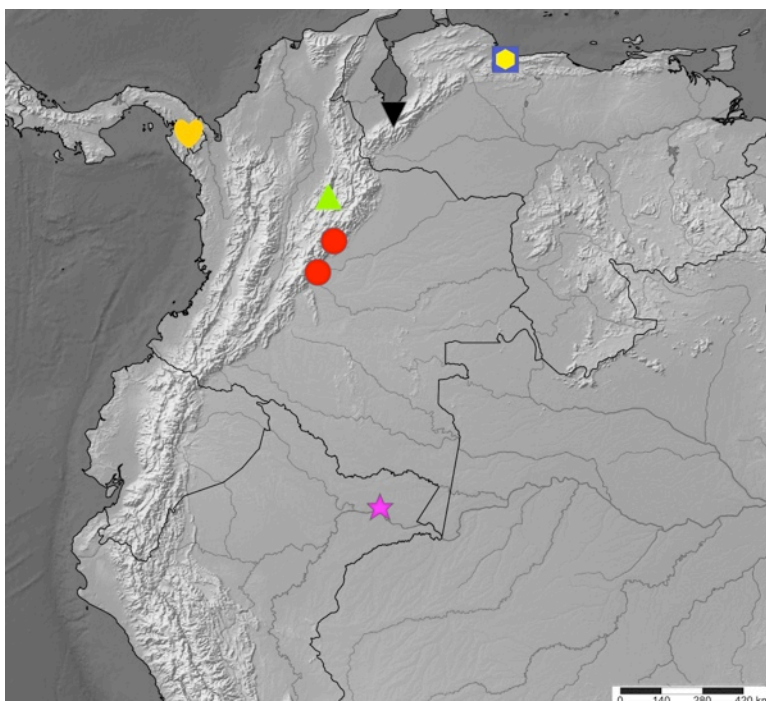


**Fig. 1-2.** *Euthycaelus janae* **sp. nov.** holotype female (BMNH 1914.9.4.3), spermathecae.  
1. Dorsal view. 2. Apical view.



**Fig. 3-6.** Spermathecae of some other *Euthycaelus* taxa.

3. *E. colonicus*, dorsal view. 4. *E. norae*, dorsal view. 5. *E. amandae*, dorsal view. 6. *E. quintero*, dorsal view (adapted from Gabriel & Sherwood, 2022).



**Fig. 7.** Type localities of all known *Euthycaelus* species.

- E. amandae* (red circles)
- E. astutus* (blue square)
- E. colonica* (yellow hexagon)
- E. guane* (green triangle)
- E. janae* **sp. nov.** (pink star)
- E. norae* (black inverted triangle)
- E. quintero* (orange heart).

## Résumé

Sherwood D. & Gabriel R., 2022. – *Euthycaelus janae*, nouvelle espèce de théraphosidés et première mention de la sous-famille des Schismatothelinae du Pérou (Araneae: Theraphosidae). *Faunitaxys*, 10(49): 1–4.

*Euthycaelus janae* sp. nov. est décrite de Pebas, au Pérou, sur la base d'une femelle holotype au Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle de Londres, constituant simultanément la première mention de la sous-famille des Schismatothelinae Guadanucci, 2014 au Pérou.

Mots-clés. – taxonomie, musées, écorégion, Amazonie péruvienne, mygale.

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### **Illustration de la couverture :**

The Andean Condor (*Vultur gryphus* Linnaeus, 1758) is the largest terrestrial flying bird in the world and can measure up to 3.5 metres in wingspan at a height of 1.30 metres. Adults are able to travel 300 kilometres in one day, hovering in the heavens at an altitude of up to 5500 meters above sea level. The male has a crest on the top of his skull, while the female, smaller, has the particularity of having blood red eyes.

The Andean condor is a national symbol of Peru and plays an important role in the folklore and mythology of the Andean regions.

Crédits photos:

**José Paulo Leite Guadanucci** : Fig. 3-5.

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