Rev. Nica. Ent., (1993) 24:1-4.

A NEW MIDDLE AMERICAN *SYNEMOSYNA* (ARANEAE: SALTICIDAE).

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RESUMEN.

Se describe *Synemosyna nicaraguaensis*, basado sobre una hembra del sur de Nicaragua. Es cercana a *Synemosyna maddisoni* Cutler y *S. ubicki* Cutler.

ABSTRACT.

Synemosyna nicaraguaensis is described, based on a female from lowland southern Nicaragua. It is related to *Synemosyna maddisoni* Cutler and *S. ubicki* Cutler.

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Synemosyna, a genus of antlike jumping spiders, is found from southern Canada to Argentina. Five species were previously known from Middle America (Mexico to Panama), three having been described in the past decade (Cutler 1985, 1988). A new species was discovered by David B. Richman (New Mexico State University) while identifying specimens sent by Dr. Jean-Michel Maes, from the collection of the Museo Entomológico, S.E.A., León, Nicaragua. The specimen was forwarded to the author for identification and is described below. All measurements are in mm.

Synemosyna nicaraguaensis, new species.

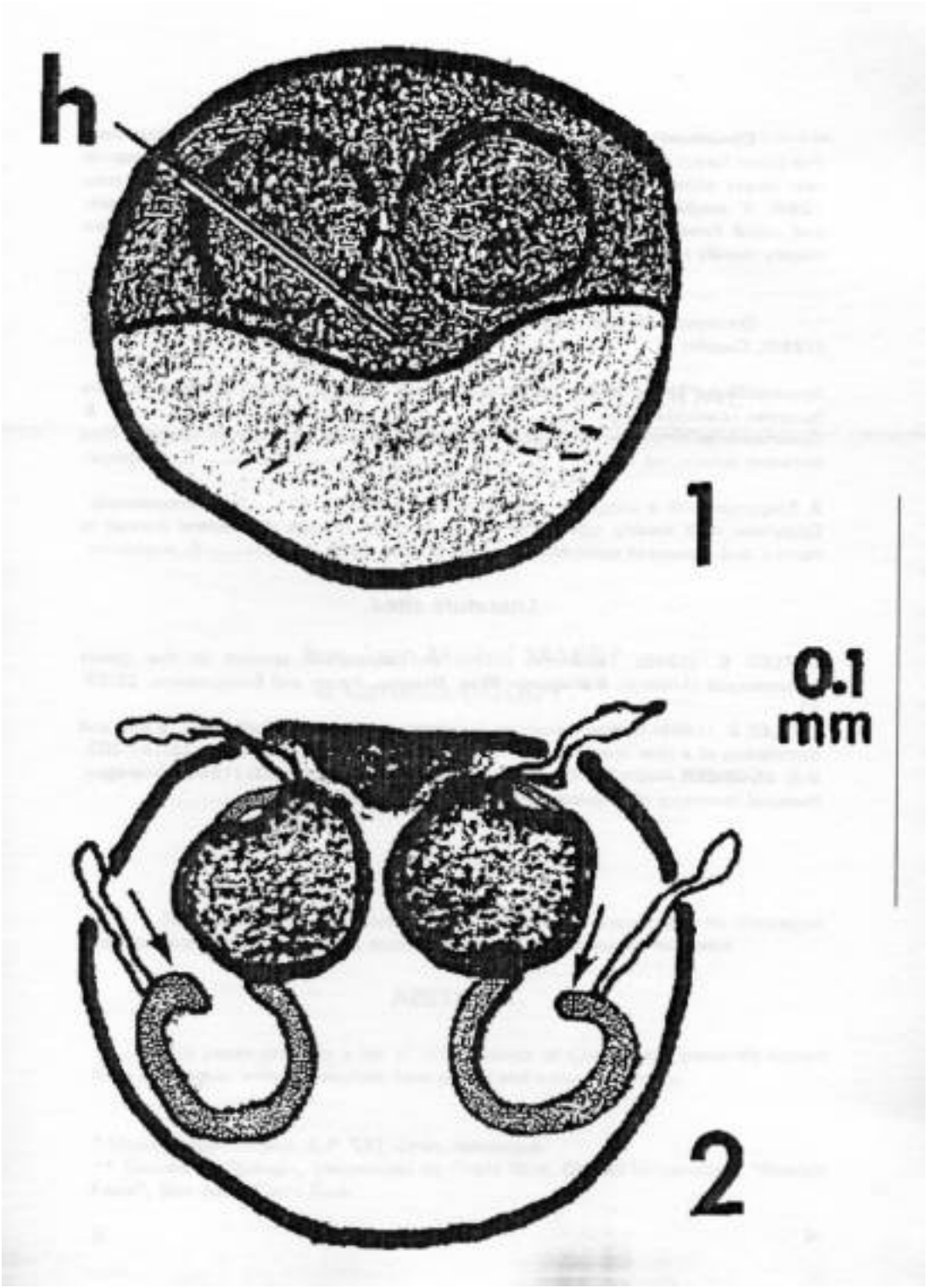
Figs. 1-2.

Type data. Holotype female from El Castillo [El Castillo de Concepción, 11°01'N 84°25'W]. Río San Juan, Nicaragua, 30 July 1989 (F. Reinboldt). Deposited in the collections of the Museo Entomológico, S.E.A., León, Nicaragua.

Etymology. Named after the country of origin of the holotype.

Diagnosis. Shape and coloration very similar to *Synemosyna maddisoni* Cutler. Internal female genitalia resembles that of *S. maddisoni* and *S. ubicki* Cutler. Differs from those two species by having a complete transverse hood across the epigynum (Fig. 1). In *S. maddisoni* and *S. ubicki* the epigynal hood is weakly sclerotized and narrowed in the middle so that it resembles a scape. Also, in *S. nicaraguaensis* the ends of the copulatory tubes loop around and have slight mesal extensions (Fig. 2), lacking in the other two species.

Description (holotype). Total length 4.4, carapace length 1.79, width 0.67. Eyefield length 0.58. Width eyerow I 0.52, eyerow III 0.63. Distance between row III eyes, 0.57. Diameter median eyes row I 0.20, lateral eyes row I 0.10, row II eyes 0.03, row III 0.13. Distance eyerow II from row I 0.12, eyerow II from eyerow III 0.12. Femur length leg I 0.60, II 0.52, III 0.63, IV 0.77. Leg order 4 3 1 2. Opisthosoma length 2.5, width 1.0. There are three retromarginal cheliceral teeth. Spination leg I: metatarsus 2-2, tibia 2-2-2; leg III metatarsus 2-2, tibia 2-2. Coloration as in *S. maddisoni* (Cutler 1985).



Figures 1-2. *Synemosyna nicaraguaensis*, holotype female from El Castillo: 1, epigynum, ventral view, h = hood; 2, epigynum, dorsal view, arrow = mesal extension of copulatory tube.

Comments. The type locality is in a region of patches of broadleaf evergreen forest interspersed with cultivated areas at low elevation with a tropical rain forest climate (United States Engineer Agency for Resources Inventaries 1966).

S. maddisoni and *S. ubicki* are both montane species found in oak forest and cloud forest. Thus *S. nicaraguaensis* is separated by habitat from its two mostly closely related species.

Discovery of this species necessitates a revision of the key of Cutler (1988), Couplet 7:

Spermathecae large, width of each at least 40% of width of epigynal area between sclerotized rims 8
Spermathecae small, width of each no more than 25% of width of epigynal area between sclerotized rims ..... *S. decipiens.*

8. Epigynum with a complete, well sclerotized hood (Fig. 1) ..... *S. nicaraguaensis.*
Epigynum with weakly sclerotized hood, reduced so that the central portion is narrow and elongated resembling a scape (Cutler, 1985, fig. 21) ..... *S. maddisoni.*

Literature cited.

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