

# On the taxonomic placement of *Tetragonophthalma taeniata* (Araneae, Lycosoidea, Pisauridae)

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## ABSTRACT

The species currently known as *Tetragonophthalma taeniata* (Mello-Leitão, 1943) is transferred to the genus *Hogna* of the family Lycosidae after examination of the juvenile holotype, *Birabenia taeniata* Mello-Leitão.

**KEYWORDS.** Araneae, taxonomy, Neotropical region.

Recently, several papers have been published (including: Carico 1993, 2005a,b, 2008, Carico & Silva 2008, Sierwald 1993, Silva & Lise 2007, Silva *et al* 2006, 2007a,b,c, and Santos 2007) with the aim of clarifying the taxonomy of all South American members of the families Pisauridae and Trechaleidae. During the course of these studies, we examined the holotype of *Birabenia taeniata* Mello-Leitão, 1943, a species originally described in the Lycosidae, and later transferred into the African pisaurid genus, *Tetragonophthalma* Karsch 1898, by Capocasale (1990) based on cheliceral teeth and eye pattern. This juvenile specimen, which is in poor condition with disarticulated legs and abdomen, still shows a clear lycosid eye pattern, and therefore we are transferring it to the lycosid genus *Hogna* which is the senior synonym of *Birabenia*. Because of the difficulty of determining the relationship of this species, known only from the type specimen, to other species of *Hogna*, we prefer to designate it as a *nomen dubium*.

Family Lycosidae Sundevall, 1833

Genus *Hogna* Simon 1885

*Hogna taeniata* (Mello-Leitão, 1943) **new combination.**

*Birabenia taeniata* Mello-Leitão, 1943: 108, fig. 9, immature holotype from Bell Ville, Córdoba, Argentina, deposited in Museo de La Plata (MLP 15710), examined.

*Tetragonophthalma taeniata* Capocasale 1990: 138.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We want to thank Dr. Luis Pereira (MLP) for the loan of the holotype. This study was supported by “Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico” (CNPq N° 140282/2008-4 for ELCS).

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