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***Coelotes deltshevi* sp. n.,
a new Spider Species from Bulgaria**
(Arachnida, Araneae, Agelenidae)

by

Dragomir DIMITROV *)

Synopsis: *Coelotes deltshevi* sp. n. is described and illustrated (both sexes) from Rhodope mountain (Southwest Bulgaria). Its taxonomic relationships are briefly discussed.

When this species was recorded for the first time (DIMITROV 1993, as *Coelotes* sp.), it was impossible to assess whether it belonged to a new species or if it was the unknown male of one of Brignoli's species described from Turkey (BRIGNOLI 1978). However it is now clear that the female is also very distinct and differs from all the others. Therefore, the species is described below.

Coelotes deltshevi sp. n. (Figs. 1 - 6)

Coelotes sp.: DIMITROV (1993)

Diagnosis: Close to *C. jurinitschi* and *C. brevispinus*, its male characterized by its typical palpal tibial apophysis and the shape of the conductor, its female by epigyne and vulva.

Derivatio nominis: The species is named in honour of Dr. Christo Deltshev, a well-known Bulgarian arachnologist and biospeleologist.

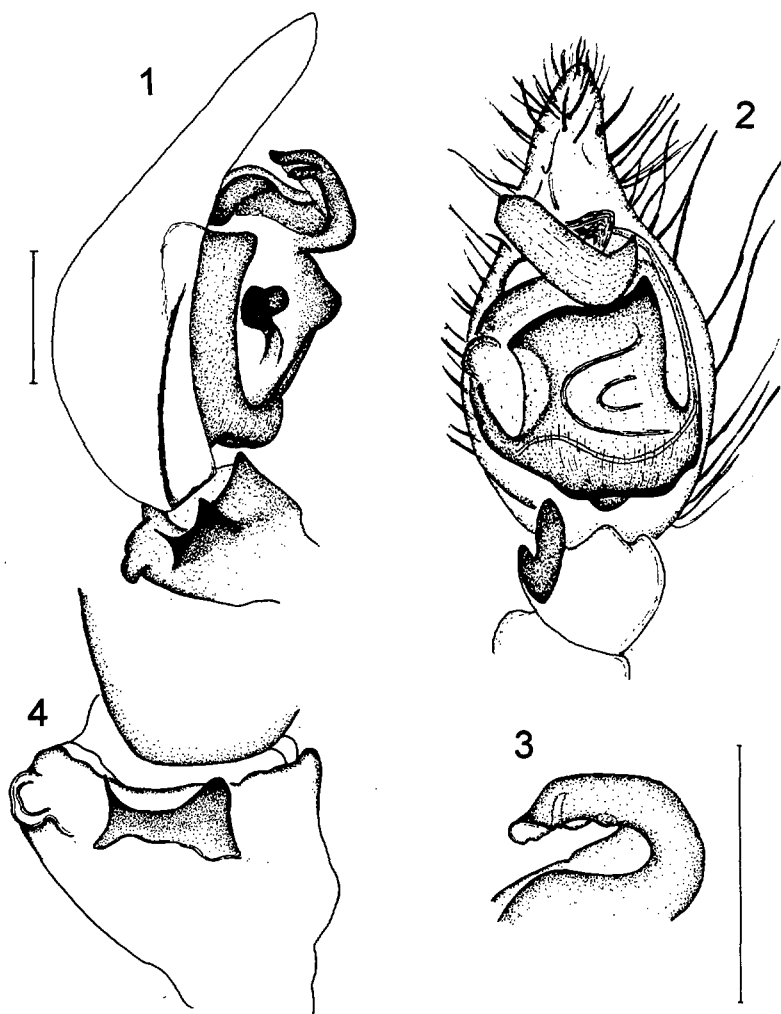
Description (♂/♀, measurements in mm): Total length 9.4 - 10.3/10.1 - 10.2; Cephalothorax length 4.6 - 4.8/4.1 - 4.4, width 3.0 - 3.3/2.6 - 3.1; Sternum: length 2.4/2.0 - 2.2, width 1.7 - 1.8/1.6 - 1.7; Abdomen: length 4.8 - 5.5/5.8 - 6.0; Femur I: length 3.3/2.8; Tibia I: length 2.8/2.6. Cephalothorax yellow-brown. Abdomen grey with dark dorsal spots. Legs: same colour as cephalothorax. Leg chaetotaxy characteristic for the genus, but cannot be used to identify the species. Number and positions of spines may even vary between the right and left legs of the same specimen. Therefore it is not given here.

♂ - palp (Figs. 1 - 4): Tibia with a wide, double-pointed apophysis which distinguishes this species clearly from all the others. The shape of the conductor is also very characteristic.

Epigyne - vulva (Figs. 5, 6): The location of the pointed processes and shape of the genital orifice are characteristic. The vulva is characterized by the shape of the receptacles.

Distribution and habitat: The specimens were collected only on Rhodope mountain (SW Bulgaria) in three sites which are situated close together. The species inhabits forest areas between 250 and 300 m a.s.l.

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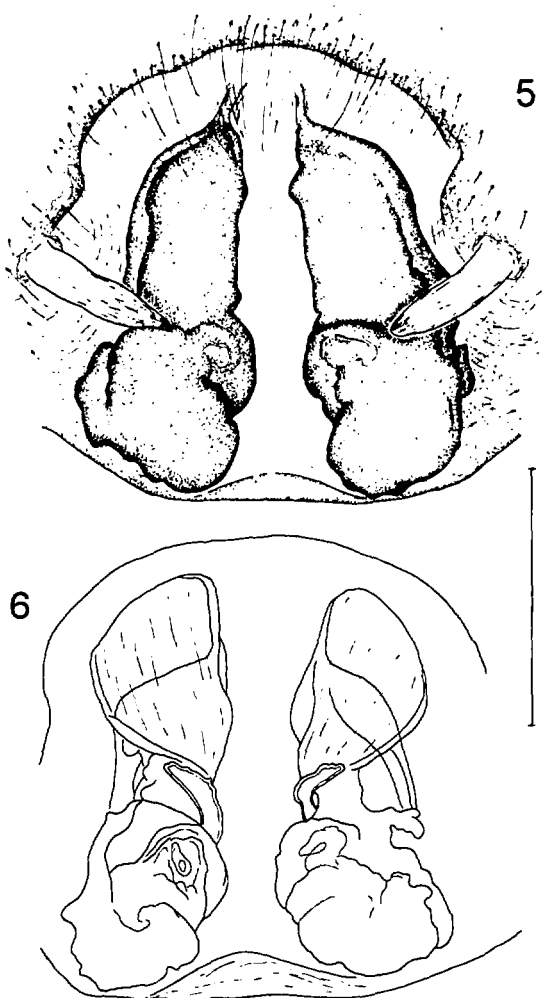


Figs. 1 - 4: *Coelotes deltshevi* sp.n., (1) ♂ palp, external view, (2) ventral view, (3) conductor, (4) tibial apophysis. — Scale lines 0.5 mm.

Discussion: *Coelotes deltshevi* sp.n. belongs to the *C. inermis* species-group. It is close to *C. jurinitschi* and *C. brevispinus*. The male differs by its broad and double-pointed palpal tibial apophysis as well as by the shape of the conductor. Females also resemble those of *C. jurinitschi*, but the location of the pointed processes and shape of the epigynal opening are different.

Material and locality: Three sites around Asenova krepost (near Asenovgrad); 3 ♂ 26.03.1993, 4 ♂ 10 ♀ 17.04.1994. 1 ♂ holotype. 4 ♂ 8 ♀ paratypes are in the collection of the author. 1 ♂ 1 ♀ paratype are kept in the collection of the Institute of Zoology, Sofia (Dr. Christo Deltshev), 1 ♂ 1 ♀ paratype will be deposited in Naturhistorisches Museum, Wien.

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Figs. 5 - 6: *Coelotes deltshevi* sp. n., (5) epigyne, (6) vulva.
Scale lines 0.5 mm.

Literature:

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