



A new species of *Caloctenus* (Araneae: Ctenidae) from Colombia

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The genus *Caloctenus* Keyserling, 1877 comprises four species of small (3–7 mm) ground-dwelling spiders found in cloud forests and adjacent habitats of the northern Andes of South America, at elevations between 1800 to 2600 m (Silva 2004). All species apparently have a restricted geographic range and most are only known from the type locality. These spiders exhibit a cryptic coloration having a dark brown body with iridescent scales, sparse white plumose hairs and club-shaped red hairs, an ornamentation pattern that makes them indistinguishable from the leaf litter and hard to find. Recent attempts to find more caloctenine spiders in a Peruvian type locality were unsuccessful and it appears their populations, in general, are declining as fast as are their mossy and humid microhabitats.

Caloctenus is the type genus of the Calocteninae, which includes two more genera in South America; *Gephyroctenus* Mello-Leitão, 1936 and *Toca* Polotow & Brescovit, 2009 (Platnick 2012). *Caloctenus* differs from other caloctenines in having a dark-brown body with striped legs; broad carapace with deep transversal median and longitudinal lateral furrows; five to eight /three to seven pairs of long ventral spines on tibiae/metatarsi I-II; male palpal tibiae strongly sclerotized at the apex with a single robust, often large RTA; females with well-defined epigynal folds, sometimes fused in part or entirely and no epigynal hoods (modified from Silva 2004). Monophyly of this subfamily (Silva 2003) is supported by the presence of long, greatly overlapping spines on the ventral surface of the anterior tibiae and metatarsi, scale-like hairs covering carapace and abdomen, long and thick anal setae, and a reduced number of cylindrical gland spigots on the posterior median spinnerets. Examination of new taxa (Polotow & Brescovit 2008, 2009), in addition to the new species herein described corroborates this hypothesis.

While examining the spider material deposited at the Museo de Ciencias Naturales Federico Carlos Lehmann (IMCN) and the Museo Entomológico de la Universidad del Valle (MUSENUV), the first author discovered a new species of *Caloctenus* from the central Andes in southwestern Colombia (Valle del Cauca). The Andes in Colombia split into a complex series of three mountains ranges: Eastern, Central and Western; this created a complicated topography with diverse climate and vegetation types (Hilty & Brown 1986). Taking into account the restricted distribution of *Caloctenus* (Silva 2004: map 1), it is not surprising to find an additional species in this complex ecosystem, which already harbors the type species (*C. aculeatus* Keyserling, 1877) known only from the eastern Andes in central Colombia (Bogota). Herein, we describe *C. albertoi* and update the known distribution of *Caloctenus* species.

Descriptions and terminology follow Silva (2004). All measurements were taken with a micrometric ocular and are in millimeters. The epigynum was cleared with a trypsin solution to enable study of the internal structures. Digital images were made with a Nikon MSZ1500 stereomicroscope adapted to a Nikon DS-Fi1 digital camera and the extended focal range images were composed with NIS-Elements BR software, version 3.1.

The following abbreviations are used: AME, anterior median eyes; ALE, anterior lateral eyes; BS, base of spermatheca; C, conductor; CD, copulatory duct; CO, copulatory opening; E, embolus; FD, fertilization duct; HS, head of spermatheca; LL, lateral lobe of epigynum; MA, tegular median apophysis; MS, median sector of epigynum; PME, posterior median eye; PLE, posterior lateral eye; RTA, retrolateral tibial apophysis; S, spermatheca; T, tegulum; VL, tibial ventral lobe.

Caloctenus albertoi sp. nov.

Figs. 1–4.

Type material. Holotype: ♀, Cañón del Rio Nima, La Sirena (3° 22' N, 76° 05' W; 2550 m), Valle del Cauca, Colombia, agosto 1994, E. Florez, deposited in MUSENUV 23552. Paratypes: 2 ♂, 3 ♀, same data as holotype, deposited in IMCN 994 and 997.