

# The male of *Lasiodorides polycuspulatus* Schmidt & Bischoff 1997 (Arachnida: Araneae: Theraphosidae: Theraphosinae)

GUNTER SCHMIDT

With 2 Figures

**Abstract:** The male of *Lasiodorides polycuspulatus* Schmidt & Bischoff 1997 shows all characters of the female. It differs from *Lasiodorides striatus* (Schmidt & Antonelli 1996) by the spination of the legs and tibial apophyses, the increased number of labial cuspules, the procurved front margin of the second row of eyes and the weak development of the stripes on palps and legs.

**Keywords:** Araneae, Theraphosidae, *Lasiodorides polycuspulatus*, male.

On the 22 April 1997 I received from M. Bullmer the male of *Lasiodorides polycuspulatus* Schmidt & Bischoff 1997, which had previously been in the possession of B. Bischoff, who bred the species. The study was done with a stereoscopic microscope at x30 and x60 magnification. Urticating hairs were brushed off from the opisthosoma and classified at x105 magnification with a microscope (Campbell, Hamburg) after Cooke et al. (1972). Abbreviations see other works by the author in this journal.

**Materials:** 1 Male, Peru, highlands; date of collection and collector unknown.  
The animal will be made available to the Research Institute Senckenberg, Frankfurt am Main.

**Diagnosis:** With all the characteristics of the genus, only slightly marked longitudinal striation of the legs, about 50 cuspules on the labium, a posterior eye row, whose anterior edge is procurved and a retroventral tibial apophysis with several spines prolaterally which break off very easily.

**Description:** Body length 48 mm, 25 x 22 mm carapace, height of eye hill 15 mm, chelicerae basic segment 12 x 4.5 mm, fang 8 mm, dentition: twelve teeth, of which teeth 4 and 5 stand together, 6 to 8 small teeth, 9 and 10 large, 11 small, 12 large. Thoracic groove transverse, deep, 5.2 mm long. Clypeus is absent because the eye hill sits directly on the carapace edge. Anterior eye row slightly procurved, posterior eye row procurved at the anterior edge, the posterior edge almost straight due to the length of the PME. Eye size and spacing in mm: AME round, 0.39, AME-AME 0.59, ALE (longitudinal diameter) 0.66, AME-ALE 0.30, PME (longitudinal diameter) 0.46, AME-PME 0.33, PLE (longitudinal diameter) 0.46, PME-PLE 0.07, ALE-PLE 0.30, PME-PME 1.32. Sternum 10 x 7 mm. Two pairs of sigillae visible: First pair 0.59 mm long, next to coxa III, 0.99 mm away from the edge of sternum, Second pair 0.53 mm long, next to coxa IV, 1.65 mm from the edge of sternum. Labium 4 mm long, 3.9 mm wide, with about 50 cuspules in four to five rows. Labio-sternal suture with two distinct mounds. Leg formula IV, I, II, III.

	Limbs in mm					
	Femur	Patella	Tibia	Metatarsus	Tarsus	Total length
Palp	14	7	12	—	3	36
Leg I	20	10	16	17	13	76
Leg II	19	10	15	17	12	73
Leg III	17	9	12	17	12	67
Leg IV	20	9	16	22	13	80

F III thicker than F II and IV, M IV very thin. Scopula: all tarsi, M I, II full, M III  $\frac{1}{2}$ , M IV scopulate in the apical region. Spination: spines difficult to see and easily broken off. Pedipalp: Ti pv 1-1-1. Leg I: M v a 2. Leg II: Ti v a 2, M v a 2. Leg III: Ti v 2-2, a 4, rl 0-1-0, M pl 1-1-1, v a 2, rl 1-1-1. Leg IV: Ti pl 0-1-1, v 2-2-2, rl 1-2-1, M pl 1-1-1-1-1, v 2-2-2, rl 1-1-1-1-1. Tarsal claw with five teeth. Palp shown in Figure 1, tibial apophyses see Figure 2. Proventral apophysis shorter and thinner than retroventral, the latter inwardly curved. The flexed metatarsus bumps into the tip. Conspicuous is the thick spine at the tip. On the inside of the proventral apophysis sit four (?) easily broken off smaller spines. Opisthosoma 23 x 15 mm. Urticating hairs of type I and III. Spinnerets: basal segment 3.9 mm, 2.6 mm middle segment, distal segment 5.3 mm, total length 11.8 mm.

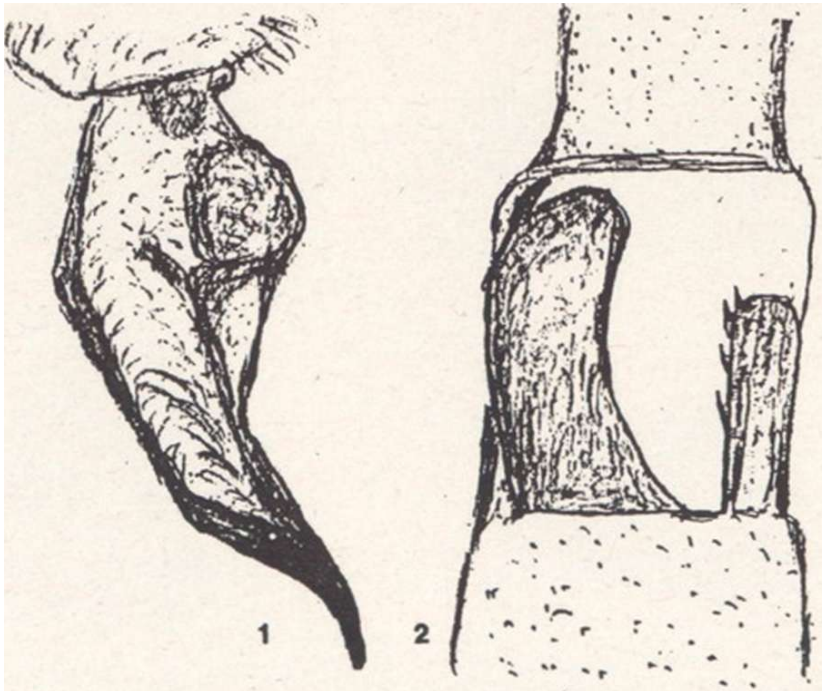


Figure 1 – 2. *Lasiodorides polycusculatus?* . - 1) Left palp prolateral; 2) Right tibial apophyses ventral.

Chestnut brown coloration, faint pale yellow longitudinal stripes on the P, barely visible On Ti and M. Even the light horizontal stripes, made of hair, distal on F, P, Ti, and M fainter than in *Lasiodorides striatus* (Schmidt & Antonelli 1996). Setae on the opisthosoma and legs slightly fox red.

**Discussion:** Now that the male of *Lasiodorides polycuspulatus* is known, one knows two species of the new genus in both sexes. Both come from Peru. On 13 January 1997 West told me of a species that looks like "*Pamphobeteus*"? *Wallacei* (= *Lasiodorides striatus*) and also comes from Peru. In all probability, this is likely to be *L. polycuspulatus*. Until now still no statements about the distribution of the genus can be made outside Peru. The demarcation of *Vitalius* Lucas et al. 1993, previously only known from Brazil, is successful because of the structure of the genitalia and the urticating hair. With *Vitalius* you will find only type I. Confusion with *Pamphobeteus* is not possible when one considers the structure of the genitalia and the tibial apophyses. As the females of *Pamphobeteus* have twin seminal receptacles, which proceed from a broad basal part and in the males the inward bent metatarsus I comes to rest between the two tibial apophyses. *Lasiodorides* could be described as "*Lasiadora* without stridulating bristles". Also the female genitalia of both genera look very similar.

**Acknowledgements:** I am grateful to Mr. Bernd Bischoff, Biberach, and Michael Bullmer, Ulm, for the provision of the male.

## Literature

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**Author:** Dr. Günter Schmidt, Von-Kleist-Weg 4, D-21407 Deutsch Evern.