

Anansus atewa Huber & Kwapong, 2013

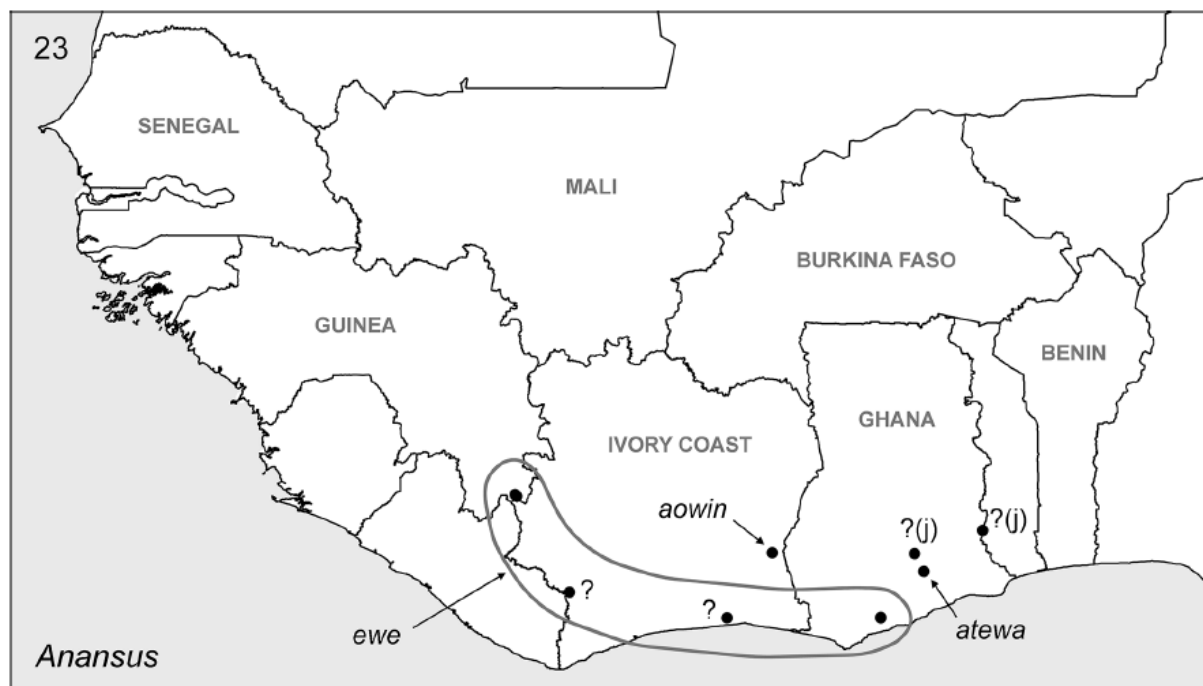
Huber, B. A., Kwapong, P. 2013. West African pholcid spiders: an overview, with descriptions of five new species (Araneae, Pholcidae). European J. Taxonomy 59: 1-44.

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9-10. *Anansus atewa* sp. nov. from Atewa, Ghana.

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Figs 23-24. Known distributions of the genera *Anansus* Huber, 2007 and *Artema* Walckenaer, 1837 in West Africa. Question marks denote uncertain identifications (*Anansus ewe*: two localities with females only) or impossible identifications [“?(j)”]: juveniles only].

Anansus atewa sp. nov.

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Figs 9-10, 23, 35-47

Diagnosis

Easily distinguished from known congeners by distinct pair of projections on male clypeus (Figs 35, 39; other known species with single tiny median process); also by male cheliceral apophyses (more proximal, wider apart, and more pointed than in other known species; Figs 39, 45), by shape of procurus (large ventral curved sclerite; without retrolateral sclerite provided with brush of long hairs; without ventral pointed projection; Figs 38, 44), and by more anterior position of epigynal pockets (Figs 41, 46).

Etymology

The species name is a noun in apposition, derived from the type locality.

Type material

Holotype ♂, in ZFMK (Ar 10513).

Type data

GHANA: Eastern Region: Atewa Hills, Atewa Atwirebu Reserve (6°13.8'N, 0°33.5'W), 740 m a.s.l., 25 Feb. 2013 (B.A. Huber).

Other material examined

GHANA: Eastern Region: 4 ♀♀ together with holotype; 2 ♂♂ 2 ♀♀ in ZFMK (Ar 10514), same data, specimens taken alive and died from heat; 2 ♀♀ 5 juvs in pure ethanol in ZFMK (Gha 137), same data.

Description

Male (holotype)

MEASUREMENTS. Total body length 1.5, carapace width 0.6. Leg 1: 5.2 (1.3 + 0.2 + 1.4 + 1.6 + 0.7), tibia 2: 0.9, tibia 3: 0.7, tibia 4: 1.1; tibia 1 L/d: 22. Distance PME-PME 25 µm, diameter PME 80 µm, distance PME-ALE 20 µm, no AME.

COLOR. Carapace ochre-grey, slightly darker medially, sternum with four pairs of dark lines extending from behind labium to bases of leg coxae, legs pale ochre-yellow, without rings, abdomen ochre-gray with distinct dark median dorsal mark.

BODY. Habitus as in Figs 35-36; ocular area barely elevated; carapace without median furrow; clypeus with distinct pair of projections at rim (Fig. 35); sternum wider than long (0.40/0.35), unmodified. Chelicerae as in Fig. 45, with pair of lateral processes proximally and pointed frontal apophyses, without stridulatory ridges.

PALPS. As in Figs 37-38 and 43-44, coxa unmodified, trochanter with indistinct ventral projection, femur small relative to tibia, with small retrolatero-ventral process and larger prolatero-ventral process set with tubercles, procurus complex, entire distal part apparently hinged against basis, without elements distinctive for other known species (retrolateral sclerite provided with brush of long hairs; ventral pointed projection), bulb with single weakly sclerotized process (embolus).

LEGS. Without spines and curved hairs, few vertical hairs; retrolateral trichobothrium on tibia 1 at 25%; prolateral trichobothrium absent on tibia 1, present on other tibiae; tarsus 1 with about ten indistinct pseudosegments.

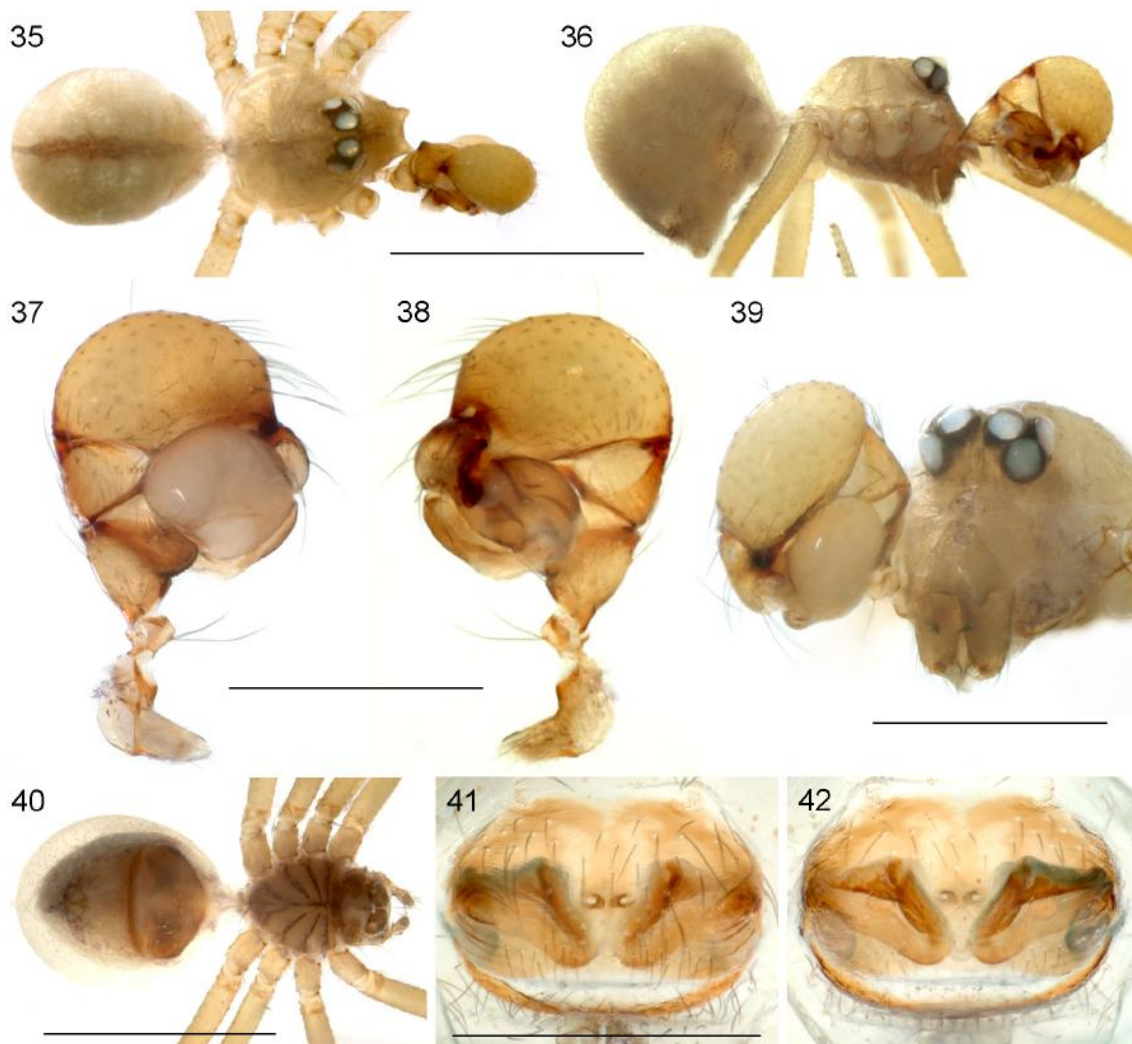
VARIATION. Tibia 1 in 2 other males: 1.3, 1.4.

Female

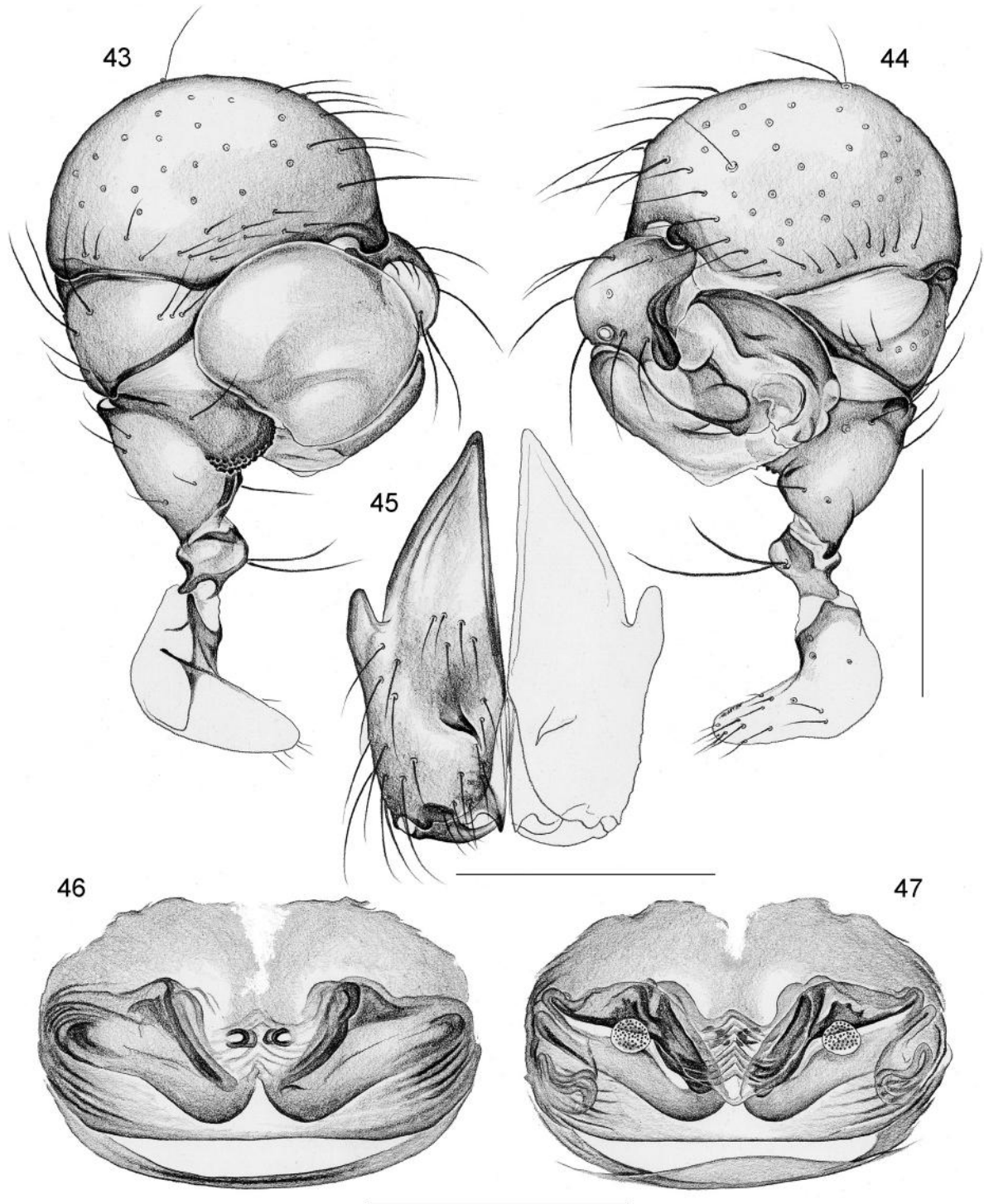
In general similar to male; tibia 1 in 6 females: 1.2-1.4 (mean 1.3). Epigynum consisting of large anterior plate provided with pair of pockets and narrow posterior plate (Figs 40, 41, 46); internal genitalia as in Figs 42 and 47.

Natural history

The spiders were found in the leaf-litter under leaves that are curved in a way to produce protected space on the underside. Two eggsacs contained 13 and 15 eggs respectively.



Figs 35-42. *Anansus atewa* sp. nov. **35-36.** ♂, dorsal and lateral views. **37-38.** Left ♂ palp, prolateral and retrolateral views. **39.** ♂ prosoma and right palp, oblique frontal view. **40.** ♀, ventral view. **41-42.** Cleared ♀ genitalia, ventral and dorsal views. Scale lines: 35-36, 40 = 1 mm; 37-39, 41-42 = 0.5 mm.



Figs 43–47. *Anansus atewa* sp. nov. **43–44.** Left ♂ palp, prolateral and retrolateral views. **45.** ♂ chelicerae, frontal view. **46–47.** Cleared ♀ genitalia, ventral and dorsal views. Scale lines: 43–44, 46–47 = 0.3 mm; 45 = 0.2 mm.

Distribution

Known from type locality only (Fig. 23). Further juvenile specimens from near Mpraeso and from Tagbo Falls (Ghana; in ZFMK) might also belong to this species.