

***Pholcus corniger* Dimitrov & Ribera, 2006**

Dimitrov, D., Ribera, C. 2006. Three new species of *Pholcus* (Araneae, Pholcidae) from the Canary Islands with notes on the genus *Pholcus* in the archipelago. J. Arachnol. 34: 126-134.

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distinguished from the rest of canarian *Pholcus* species by the simplified structure of the procursus with single membranous lamella on its apex, the presence of six teeth and the absence of basal bristles on the cheliceral apophyses (Fig. 26). The female is differentiated by the elevated conically shaped epigynum (Figs. 27–29). This species can be easily distinguished by the total reduction of the eyes (both in male and female) and the shape of the elevated ocular area that reminds horns (Figs. 19–22).

Description.—*Male (holotype)*: Prosoma with an ochre-yellow coloring and well-marked fovea and cephalic furrow. Eye area elevated with characteristic shape and brown coloring (Figs. 19–20), with group of hairs between the ocular elevations. Clypeus high, yellowish with brownish spot in the center and almost transparent at the edges. Sternum yellowish. Chelicerae yellow-brownish, with brown apophyses carrying six dark brown teeth without bristles at the base (Fig. 26). Frontal prominence small. The upper margin of the proximolateral apophyses roughly reaching the lower margin of the frontal prominence. Eyes completely missing. Palps as in Figs. 23–25. Uncus as in Fig. 31. Trochanter (Fig. 32) with retrolateral apophysis, femur with ventral bulge. The procursus is very characteristic, conspicuously different from those of the remaining species of Canarian *Pholcus*. While in all the other species the apical part of the procursus is very complex and carries one or various apophyses and lamellar processes, in *P. corniger* it is much simpler and ends with a single membranous lamella. This lamella extends along all the apex of the procursus. Opisthosoma cylindrical with pale yellowish color.

Female (paratype): Like the male, although the elevations of the ocular area are much smaller and colored like the rest of the prosoma (Figs. 21, 22). Prosoma lighter. Clypeus almost transparent. The genital area is not pigmented except for the sclerotized parts of the epigynum. Epigynum and vulva as in Figs. 27–30. As in the male, eyes are absent.

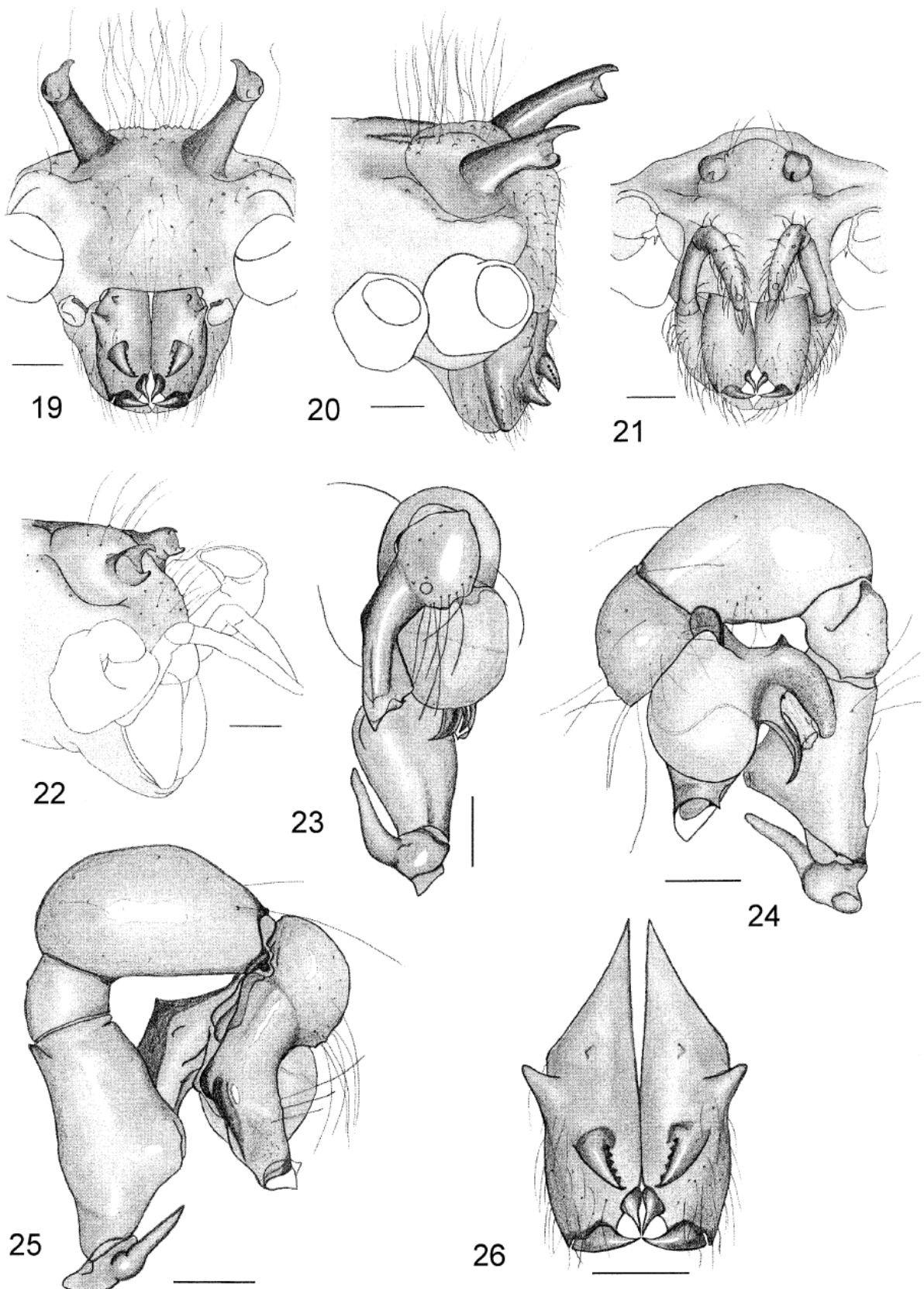
Measurements.—*Male (holotype)*: Prosoma 1.1 wide and 1.0 long; opisthosoma 1.0 wide and 2.5 long. Total body length 3.5. Legs: I, femur 7.0, patella 0.3, tibia 7.0, metatarsus 11.5, tarsus 1.3, total 27.1; II 5.5, 0.3, 5.2, 8.0, 1.2, 20.2; III 4.0, 0.3, 3.9, 5.3, 1.0,

***Pholcus corniger* new species** Figs. 19–32

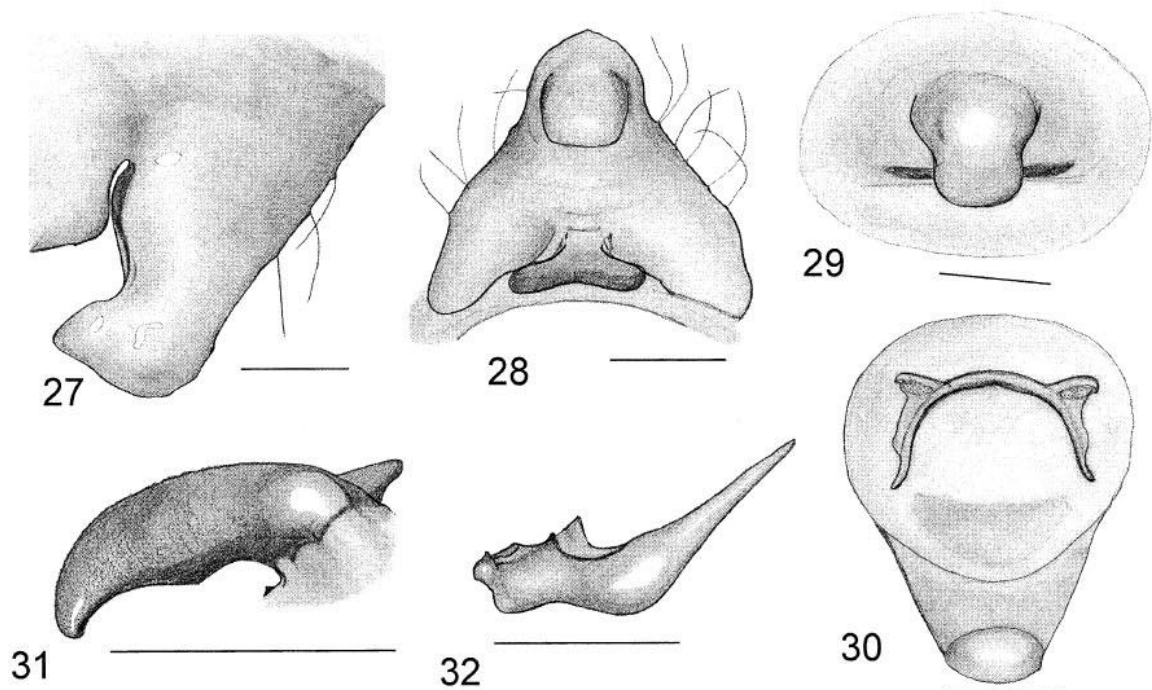
Material examined.—Holotype male, Cueva de San Miguel, San Miguel de Abona, Tenerife, Canary Islands, 28°06'N, 16°36'W, 1 January 1991, P. Oromi (CCRUB 4500–170). Paratype: Canary Islands: 1 female from the same locality, 1 January 1991, P. Oromi (CCRUB 4501–170).

Etymology.—The specific name refers to the shape of the elevated ocular area reminding horns. The word “corniger” in Latin means “with horns”.

Diagnosis.—*Pholcus corniger* can be easily



Figures 19–26.—*Pholcus corniger* new species: 19. Male prosoma, frontal view; 20. Male prosoma, lateral view; 21. Female prosoma, frontal view; 22. Female prosoma, lateral view; 23. Male palp, frontal view; 24. Male palp, prolateral view; 25. Male palp, retrolateral view; 26. Male chelicerae. Scale bar 0.2 mm.



Figures 27–32.—*Pholcus corniger* new species: 27. Epigynum, lateral view; 28. Epigynum, caudal view; 29. Epigynum, ventral view; 30. Vulva, dorsal view; 31. Uncus; 32. Trochanter of the male palp. Scale bar 0.2 mm.

14.5; IV 6.5, 0.3, 5.0, 7.0, 1.0, 19.8. Palp femur 0.50, patella 0.10, tibia 0.50, tarsus 0.28, total 1.38. Procursus 0.4

Female: Prosoma 1.1 wide, 1.0 long; opisthosoma 1.1 wide, 2.2 long; total body length 3.2. Legs: I, femur 7.0, patella 0.3, tibia 6.5, metatarsus 11.0, tarsus 1.8, total 26.6; II 6.2, 0.3, 5.0, 7.2, 1.1, 19.8; III 4.0, 0.3, 3.8, 5.0, 0.8, 13.9; IV 6.0, 0.3, 5.0, 7.0, 1.0, 19.3. Palp femur 0.24, patella 0.07, tibia 0.19, tarsus 0.30, total 0.80.

Distribution.—Endemic to the island of Tenerife, only known from the type locality.

Remarks.—Determining the closest relatives is difficult for this species. Taking into account the shape of the uncus, this species can be associated to the Tenerifensis group (see above). On the other hand, though, the epigynum of the female is very different from those of the Tenerifensis group, and it looks more similar to that of *P. baldiosensis* Wunderlich 1992 (the other troglomorphic species). Unfortunately, we cannot determine whether the male of *P. baldiosensis* is in fact similar to the Tenerifensis group since it still remains unknown.

Taking in account the characteristic features of the epigynum and the procurus, which are

remarkably different from those of the other Canarian *Pholcus* species, *P. corniger* could possibly be a member of a different group, or it could form a subgroup (with *P. baldiosensis*) of the Tenerifensis group. In order to yield an answer to this question, a detailed phylogenetic study must be performed.

Dimitrov, D., Arnedo, M.A., Ribera, C. 2008. Colonization and diversification of the spider genus *Pholcus* Walckenaer, 1805 (Araneae, Pholcidae) in the Macaronesian archipelagos: Evidence for long-term occupancy yet rapid speciation. *Mol. Phyl. Evol.* 48: 596-614.

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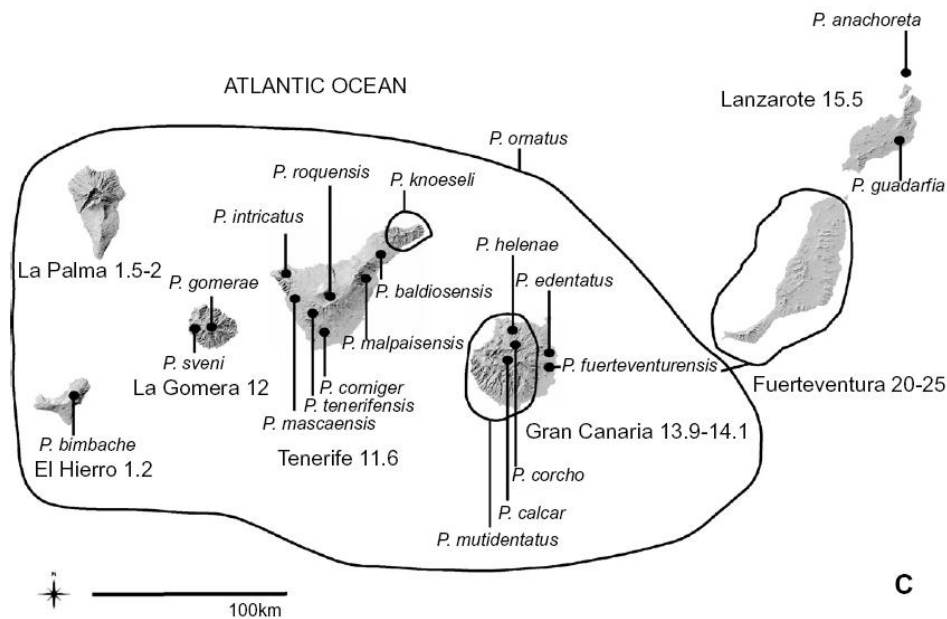


Fig. 1. (A) Map of the Macaronesian biogeographical region. (B) Known distribution of the Madeiran and north-west African *Pholcus* species. (C) Known distribution of the Canarian *Pholcus* species. Numbers following island names denote their estimated maximum age in Mya.

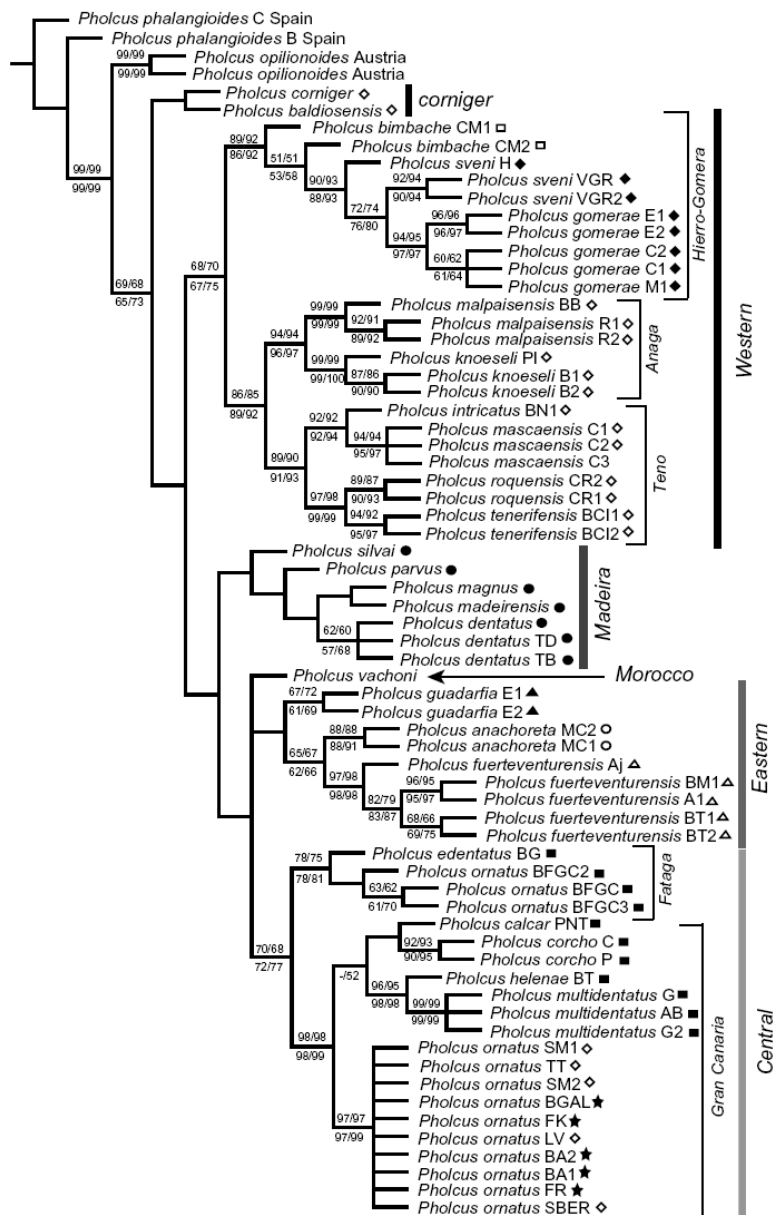


Fig. 5. Strict consensus of the 4 most parsimonious trees ($L = 2442$, $CI = 0.534$, $RI = 0.881$) found by MP analysis of the combined macaronesia data set. Support values higher than 50 are given as follows, bootstrap/Poisson bootstrap above branches and jackknife/symmetric resampling below branches. Geographic localities of the Macaronesian species are labeled as follows, Tenerife, rhomb; La Gomera, filled rhomb; El Hierro, square; Gran Canaria, filled square; Fuerteventura, triangle; Lanzarote, filled triangle; Montaña Clara, circle; Madeira, filled circle; La Palma, star.