

On the authorship of Tegenariini and Scytodidae (Aranei: Agelenidae, Scytodidae)

К вопросу об авторстве Tegenariini и Scytodidae (Aranei: Agelenidae, Scytodidae)

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KEY WORDS: Araneae, tribe, subfamily, date of publication, priority, spider.

КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА: Araneae, триба, подсемейство, дата публикации, приоритет, пауки.

ABSTRACT. The authorship of many taxa in spiders such as subfamilies and tribes is difficult to discover. These names are not listed in catalogs, and it is challenging to learn of their existence. For instance, modern publications attribute the authorship of the tribe Tegenariini to Lehtinen, 1967. Chinese authors described the subfamily Tegenariinae in 2017, unaware that such a taxon already existed. However, the name Tegenaridae was first used by Czech biologist Prach in 1860. In the same work, he mentioned that there is a subfamily in Tegenaridae containing the single species *Argyroneta aquatica* (Clerck, 1757), but did not provide its name. Today, authorship of the family Argyronetidae is attributed to Thorell, 1869. It was believed that the family Scytodidae was described by Blackwall in 1864, but this name was actually first used by him in 1852.

How to cite this paper: Marusik Yu.M. 2025. On the authorship of Tegenariini and Scytodidae (Aranei: Agelenidae, Scytodidae) // Arthropoda Selecta. Vol.34. No.3. P.408–409. doi: 10.15298/arthsel.34.3.12

РЕЗЮМЕ. Авторство многих таксонов пауков группы семейства (подсемейства и трибы) сложно установить. Эти названия не указываются в каталогах, и трудно узнать об их существовании. Так, современные публикации приписывают авторство трибы Tegenariini Lehtinen, 1967. Китайские авторы описали в 2017 г. подсемейство Tegenariinae, не зная, что такой таксон уже существует. Однако впервые название группы на уровне семейства Tegenaridae было употреблено чешским биологом Prach в 1860 г. В этой же работе он упомянул, что в Tegenaridae существует подсемейство, куда входит единственный вид *Argyroneta aquatica* (Clerck, 1757), но не указал его названия. Сейчас авторство семейства Argyronetidae приписывают Thorell, 1869. Считалось, что семейство Scytodidae описал Blackwall в 1864 г., но на самом

деле это название было впервые употреблено им же в 1852 г.

Introduction

In zootaxonomy, it is standard practice to cite the author and year of publication for species and genus names. However, this rule does not extend to family-group names (e.g., family, subfamily, tribe). Determining the authorship of subfamilies and tribes is often challenging, as they are frequently omitted in publications, and in most of these names are missing from the WSC [2025].

Tegenariini exemplifies this issue. While cited in publications by Ovtchinnikov [1999], Barrientos & Cardoso [2007], Bolzern *et al.* [2013], and Zamani & Marusik [2019], none of them attribute authorship for this tribe. In contrast, Bolzern *et al.* [2010] and Zamani *et al.* [2024] credit Tegenariini to Lehtinen [1967]. Notably, Lehtinen's fundamental 1967 work does not specify authorship for any family-group names, including those he introduced.

While searching another fundamental work by Bonnet [1955], I found an older family-group name based on the genus *Tegenaria* Latreille, 1804: Tegenaridae. Additionally, in a book describing Agelenidae of China [Zhu *et al.*, 2017], the recently proposed subfamily name Tegenariinae was used. Furthermore, while reviewing historical publications, I discovered that the family name Scytodidae Blackwall, 1864 was actually introduced by Blackwall 12 years earlier (1852) — a fact overlooked in major spider catalogs by Roewer, Bonnet, and even the recent WSC [2025]. The goal of this paper is to establish the correct original authorship for these two family-group names.

Tegenariinae Prach, 1860

Tegenaridae Prach, 1860: 80.

Tegenariini Lehtinen, 1967: 344.
Tegenariinae Zhang, Zhu et Wang, 2017: 551 (Chinese text), 687 (English text).

COMMENTS. It is not clear why Prach [1860] introduced this name while name Agelenidae C.L. Koch, 1837 was already known and mentioned at least in five publications prior to Prach (see Bonnet [1955]). Besides *Tegenaria domestica* (Clerck, 1757), Prach considered seven other species occurring in Czechia within his family. These species are currently placed in four different families: *Agelena labyrinthica* (Clerck, 1757), *Textrix lycosina* (Sundevall, 1831) (= *T. denticulata* (Olivier, 1789)), *T. torpida* (C.L. Koch, 1837) (= *Hispona t.*), *Philoica civilis* (Walckenaer, 1802) (= *T. domestica*) (all Agelenidae), *Hahnina pratensis* C.L. Koch, 1841 (= *Antistea elegans* (Blackwall, 1841), Hahniidae); *Philoica notata* (C.L. Koch, 1834) (= *Liocranum rupicola* (Walckenaer, 1830), Liocranidae) and *Anyphaena accentuata* (Walckenaer, 1802) (Anyphaenidae).

Prach (1860) also mentioned *Argyroneta aquatica* (Clerck, 1757) as a sole member of another subfamily, although he did not provide a name for this taxon. Considering that all families mentioned by Prach (1860) are typified, he could potentially be considered as an author of Argyronetidae — a family currently attributed to Thorell, 1869 (WSC 2025).

Scytodidae Blackwall, 1852

Scytodidae Blackwall, 1852: 258.

Scytodidae: Blackwall, 1864: 379.

COMMENTS. It appears that both Bonnet [1958] and Roewer [1942] overlooked this name first published in 1852, and both considered this group as subfamily of Sicariidae Keyserling, 1880. The current WSC [2025] inherited this classification from Roewer's catalog and list authorship as Scytodidae: Blackwall, 1864.

Acknowledgements. I would like to thank my Czech colleagues who helped me find the PDF of the publication by Prach, Mikhail M. Omelko (Vladivostok, Russia), and Seppo Koponen (Turku, Finland) for reviewing my manuscript.

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Responsible editor K.G. Mikhailov