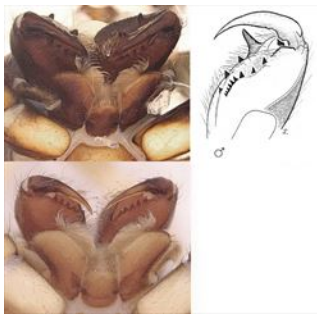
Jacksonoides Wanless, 1988

Examples of live Jacksonoides

Illustrators (and ©) I.R. Macaulay (TR, R. Whyte

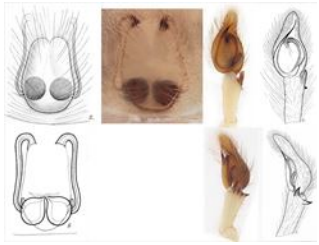
Aspects of the general morphology of Jacksonoides

Illustrators (and ©) B.J. Richardson (CSIRO) & M. Żabka (diag.) (QMB)



Aspects of the chelicera of Jacksonoides

Illustrators (and ©) B.J. Richardson (CSIRO) & M. Żabka (diag.) (QMB)



Palp and epigyne morphology of Jacksonoides kochi

Illustrators (and ©) B.J. Richardson (CSIRO), M. Żabka (diag.) (QMB)

Taxonomy

Jacksonoides has seven Australian species*: Jacksonoides distinctus, J. eileenae, J. kochi, J. nubilis, J. queenslandicus, J. simplexipalpis* and *J. subtilis*. The genus is part of an Australasian clade (Maddison et al 2008) including *Adoxotoma, Arasia, Astia, Astilodes, Helpis, Megaloastia, Parahelpis, Sondra* and *Tauala*. Genera from Indonesia (*Katya*) and the Philippines (*Orthrus*) may also be part of this group (Maddison 2015). Further information on the genus and described species can be found in Richardson and Żabka (2017) and Whyte and Anderson (2017).

Description

Jacksonoides spp. are small to medium-sized spiders, body length 3 to 8 mm, with a high, rounded carapace, widest behind the lateral eyes. The dorsal surface of the carapace is depressed between the posterior lateral eyes which are on distinct tubercules. The rear surface of the carapace is steep. Chelicerae are robust and rounded, often with a sculptured front surface. In some species there is a small tooth-like projection on the front surface used in mating. There are 8-11 retromarginal (pluridentate) teeth. The first pair of legs is long, with fringes on the tibiae and metatarsi, with long and strong spines on the tibiae and metatarsi of legs one and two.

The male's palp has a long, slender embolus arising from the prolateral or distal margin of the rounded tegulum. The multi-lobed retro-lateral tibial apophysis can be simple or subdivided to give a butterfly-like or other appearance.

The female's copulatory openings are anterior to the roundish spermathecae. Long simple insemination ducts travel to join the lateral edges of the spermathecae. There is an atrium between the copulatory openings and the spermathecae.

Biology

Jacksonoides spp. are very commonly caught in pitfall traps and can also be collected from foliage in the rainforests east of the Great Dividing Range of Australia north of Sydney. This genus has been used for extensive studies of spider behaviour by R.R. Jackson and co-workers and P.W. Taylor and co-workers.

Distribution

Jacksonoides is found along the east coast of Australia from Sydney north to Cape York.

References

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* The information sheet should be interpreted in the context of the associated diagrams and photographs. Diagrams explaining anatomical terms can be found in the 'Salticidae' pictures at the beginning of the list of genera.