

A NEW *AMMOTRECHELLA* ROEWER (SOLPUGIDA:  
AMMOTRECHIDAE) FROM JAMAICA<sup>1</sup>

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ABSTRACT

*Ammotrechella apeji* n.sp. is described from 3 localities in Jamaica.

Only 1 species of solpugid, *Ammotrechinus gryllipes* (Gervais), has been recorded previously from Jamaica (Roewer 1934, Muma 1970). It is, therefore, significant that 3 entomologists collected at 3 different localities on the island in 1968, specimens of a previously unrecorded genus and undescribed species. This species is appropriately named for Dr. Samuel A. Apeji who collected the only 2 mature specimens.

*Ammotrechella apeji* new species

Fig. 1 to 4

MALES: Total length 10.5 to 12.0 mm. Chelicerae 0.8 to 0.8 mm wide and 2.8 to 2.9 mm long. Propeltidium 2.0 to 2.1 mm wide and 1.9 to 2.0 mm long. Holotype larger measurements.

Coloration in alcohol pale yellow to yellow with dusky rust-brown to purplish-brown markings as follows: chelicerae with two indistinct dorsal and one indistinct lateral wide stripes; propeltidium dusky except for a small pale area on each side of dark eye tubercle, narrow medium stripe, and a pair of submedian pale areas just anterior to posterior margin; mesopeltidium, metapeltidium, and abdominal tergites pale; venter and coxae of all appendages pale; legs rust-brown in color fading on tarsi to yellow; palpi rust-brown darkening gradually to purplish-brown on metatarsi and tarsi. Malleoli pale yellow.

Dentition typical of Ammotrechinae as shown in Fig. 1 and 2. Flagellum ovate with rolled, fringed upper and lower margins, and attached to fixed finger at about the level of a vertical line between the first and second fondal teeth. Fixed finger with a carina that attains a peak behind the principal tooth of the fixed finger. Anterior and principal teeth of fixed finger subequal. Both fixed and movable finger with only 1 intermediate tooth. Mesal tooth of movable finger distinct. There are 4 teeth on the ectal margin of the fond but only 3 on the mesal margin.

Palpi clothed with the usual cylinder bristles, long and short setae, and very long trichobothria; the cylinder bristles are shorter on the upper surfaces of the segments. In addition, there are 6 pairs of distinguishable spine-like setae on the lower surface of the palpal metatarsi and 5 pairs on the palpal tibiae. There is no distinguishable series of spine-like setae on the palpal femora.

Chelicerae about 3.5 times longer than wide. Propeltidium wider than long by a ratio of 1 to 1.1. Eyes slightly less than a diameter apart.

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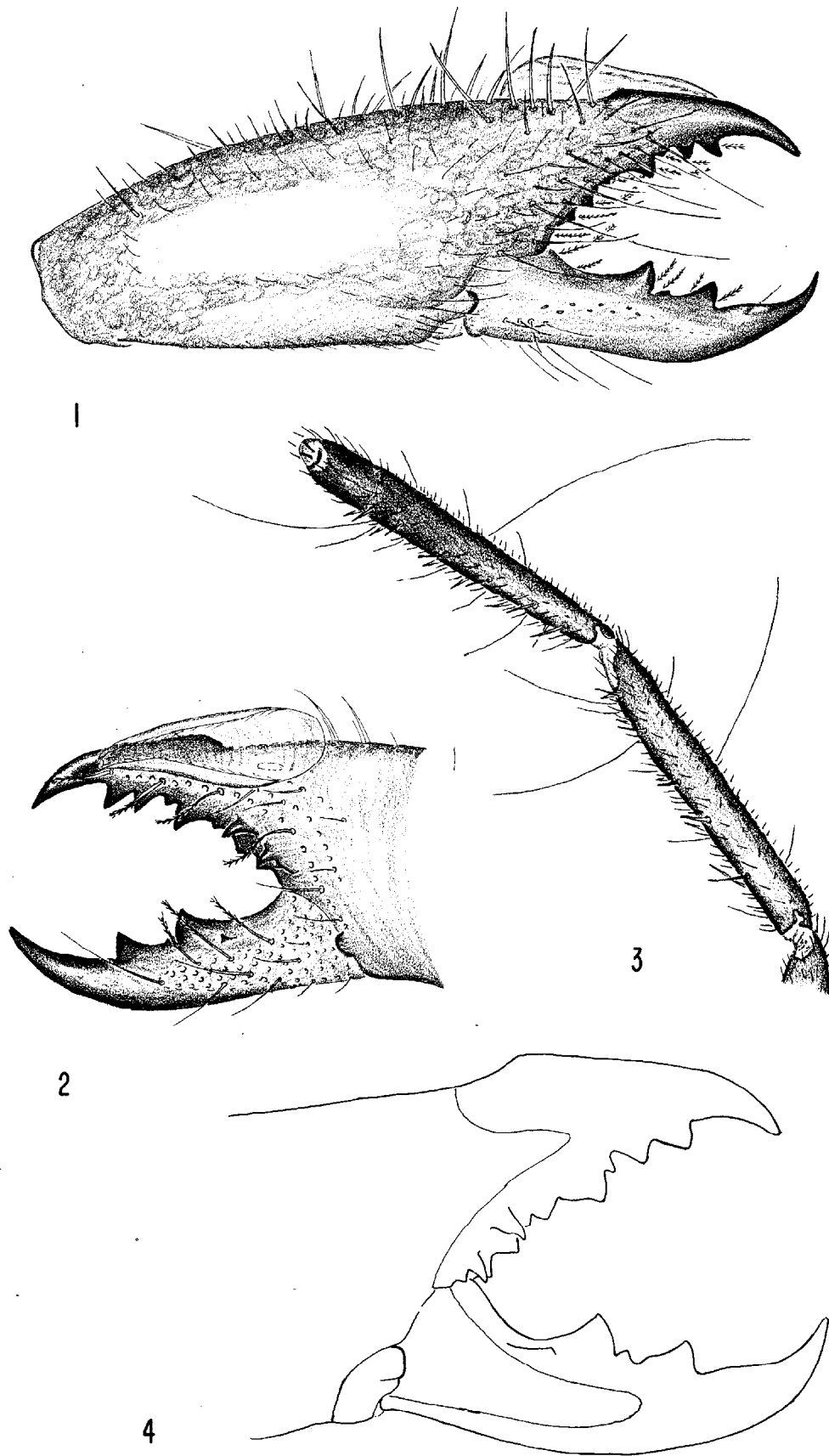


Fig. 1 to 4. *Ammotrechella apejii* new species. 1. Right male chelicera, ectal view. 2. Right male chelicera, mesal view. 3. Right male palpus, mesoventral view. 4. Left immature chelicera, mesal view.

FEMALES: Unknown.

IMMATURES: Total length 9.5 to 11.5 mm.

Two subadult immatures have essentially the same coloration as that of the males except the chelicerae and propeltidium of both are pale and unmarked. Both also have similar dentition to that of the males except the principal tooth of the fixed finger is more massive than the anterior teeth; dentition appears to be normal for female ammotrechids. No distinct series of spine-like setae can be distinguished on the palpal tibiae or metatarsi.

TYPE LOCALITY: Male holotype collected in can trap baited with syrup on 2 February 1969 at Portland Cottage, Jamaica by S. A. Apeji. Male paratype collected in can trap syrup on 6 December 1968 at Portland Cottage, Jamaica by S. A. Apeji. Immature collected on 10 October 1968, 13 miles east of Kingston-Morant Bay Road in St. Thomas Parish, Jamaica by R. Kerns. Immature collected on dead branch between mangrove and zeric cactus scrub on 19 November 1968 in Clarendon Parish, 1.2 miles west of Milk River Bath, Jamaica by R. E. Woodruff.

REMARKS: This species is readily distinguished from other members of the genus by the palpal coloration and armature, the long cheliceral carina, and the presence of three mesal fonal teeth. The genus *Ammotrechella* Roewer now includes 10 known species.

LITERATURE CITED

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