Two new *Pterinochilus* species from Kenya
(Araneae, Theraphosidae, Harpactirinae)

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Summary

Two new theraphosid spider species from East Africa are described: *Pterinochilus raygabrieli* sp. n. from south-central Kenya and *Pterinochilus andrewsmithi* sp. n. from northwestern Kenya. The two new species are illustrated and diagnosed from their congeners.

Introduction

The African theraphosid spider genus *Pterinochilus* Pocock, 1897 was revised by Gallon (2002), reducing the number of species within the genus from 23 to 6, by synonymy and transfers to other genera. Schmidt (2002a, b) added an additional species, *Pterinochilus leetzi* Schmidt, 2002, but Gallon (2008) considered this species to be a junior synonym of *Pterinochilus murinus* Pocock, 1897. In the same publication Gallon described *Pterinochilus cryptus* Gallon, 2008 from coastal Angola.

Whilst working through unidentified and unsorted African theraphosids at the Natural History Museum, London, I came across two hitherto undescribed *Pterinochilus* species from Kenya. The description of these two species here brings the total number of *Pterinochilus* species to nine.

Methods

Methods follow Gallon (2002), except that ocular and somatic measurements were obtained microscopically using an eyepiece graticule (±0.01 mm and ±0.1 mm respectively.


*Pterinochilus raygabrieli* sp. n. (Plates 1–2, Figs. 1–8)

**Type material:** Holotype ♂ (BMNH) from Kenya, Mt. Thatha area, 10 miles W of mountain on Nairobi road, 5 August 1951 (Lord Richard Percy).

**Etymology:** The specific name is a patronym in honour of Ray Gabriel who has done much to assist my work on African theraphosid taxonomy.

**Diagnosis:** The broad, elongated, four-keeled embolus readily distinguishes *P. raygabrieli* sp. n. from its congeners. The absence of distal prolateral spike setae on the maxilla provides additional distinction from *Pterinochilus murinus*. *Pterinochilus raygabrieli* sp. n. shows affinities with *P. alluaudi* Berland, but possesses a more elongated embolus, without the distinctive tri-keeled, triangular cross-section found in that species.

**Description:** Holotype male (BMNH) (Plates 1–2): Total length 24.9. Carapace profile low, length 11.5, width 8.6. Abdomen length 10.7, width 7.0. Fovea deep transverse pit. Ocular tubercle length 1.15, width 1.54. Clypeus 0.29. Eye sizes: AME 0.42, ALE 0.44, PME 0.24, PLE 0.35. Sternum with three pairs of oval submarginal sigilla. Labium with c. 75 cuspules. Maxilla with c. 120 cuspules. DS of posterior spinneret

Plates 1–4: 1–2 *Pterinochilus raygabrieli* sp. n. 1 Dorsal view; 2 Ventral view. 3–4 *Pterinochilus andrewsmithi* sp. n. 3 Dorsal view; 4 Ventral view.