

Two Additional Spider Families, Nemesiidae and Tengellidae, Recorded from Trinidad and Tobago

Currently, 50 families of spiders are documented and confirmed to be found in Trinidad and Tobago (Sewlal and Cutler 2003; Sewlal 2010) belonging to the infraorders Araneomorphae and Mygalomorphae. A search of the database of the Field Museum, Chicago, USA has yielded the presence of two more families, Nemesiidae (Mygalomorphae) and Tengellidae (Araneomorphae), bringing the total number of families recorded from Trinidad and Tobago to 52. The records for both families each consist of a single adult male of unknown genus and species collected in montane forest by S.B. Peck and J. Kukulova-Peck. The specimen of the family Nemesiidae was collected using a flight interception trap (FIT) at 16 km north Arima in Andrew's Trace (620 m elevation), between 24 June to 7 July, 1993 (Catalog no. FMNH-INS-61277; Accession no. FMHD#93-440). A detailed description of this family is available at Raven (1985). The specimen belonging to the family Tengellidae was collected in Maracas Valley above Loango Village (600 m elevation), from malaise traps between 22 June to 6 July, 1993 (Catalog no. FMNH-INS-61129; Accession no. FMHD#93-443). Ubick and Richman (2009) give the characteristics of this family.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks to John Murphy for drawing my atten-

tion to this database and to Bruce Cutler for comments on this note.

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