

Micromesomma cowani Pocock 1895

(Figs. 22, 23A–E, 24A–E, 25A–B, D, 26A–C, 65, 68)

Micromesomma cowani Pocock, 1895:190–191 (two specimens from Central Madagascar, purchased of Rev. Deans Cowans, lectotype female, here designated in order to ensure the name's proper and consistent application, and paralectotype female, BMNH 82.26, in BMNH, examined). Roewer 1942:192. Bonnet 1957:2886. Dresco & Canard 1975: 783–788. Raven 1985:145. Griswold 1987a:109–117. Platnick 1989:71. Platnick 2001.

Note.—The types are from “Central Madagascar” (Pocock 1895: 191). There are no precise locality data with any specimen, so the distribution within Madagascar remains a mystery.

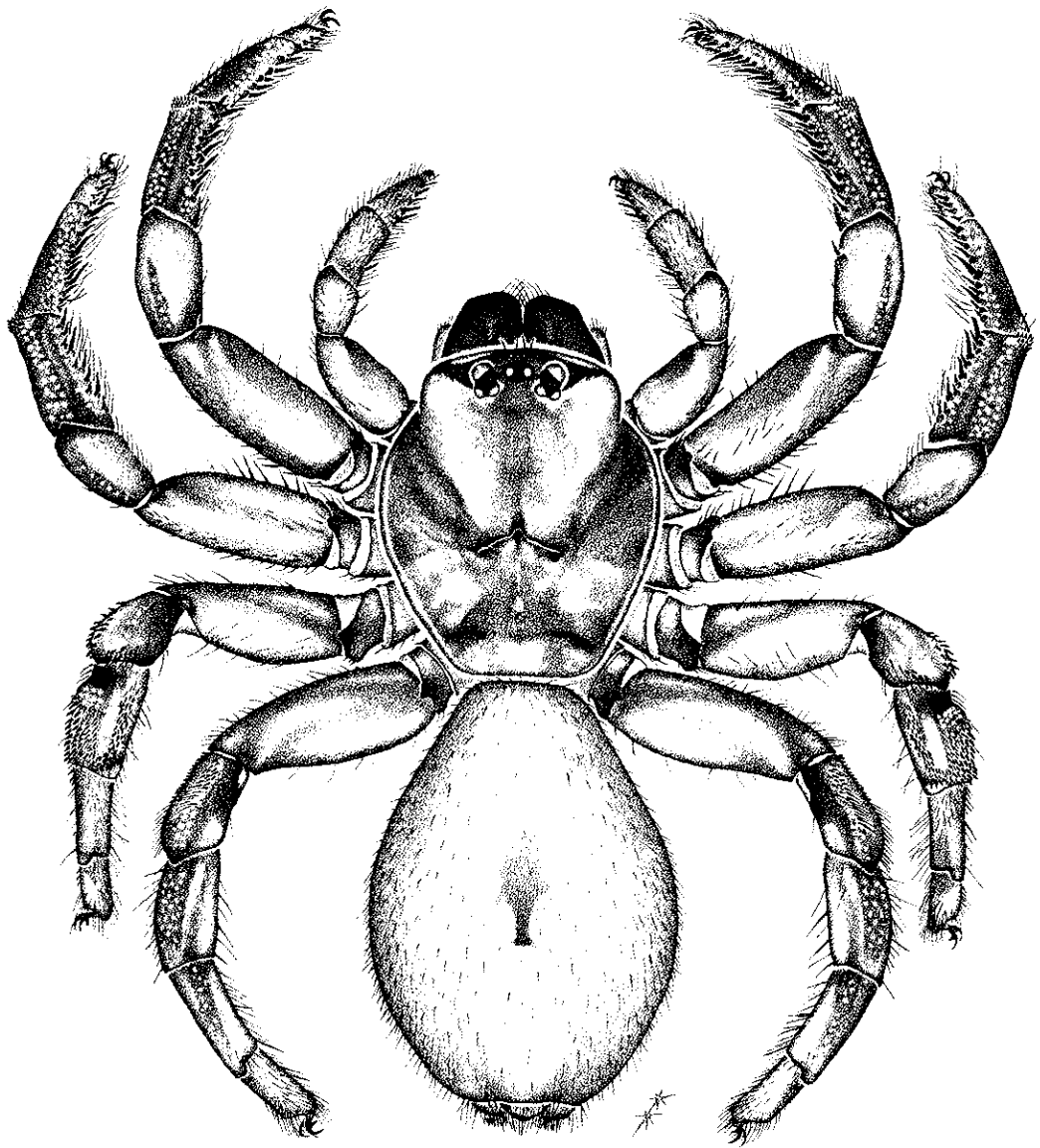
Diagnosis.—Same as for genus.

Description.—Female (lectotype): Total length 19.1. Carapace dark yellow-brown; caput and ocular area light yellow-brown with dark striae extending along lateral margins and from PME to thoracic fovea, black surrounding each AME and extending between each ALE and posterior eyes; chelicerae dark yellow-brown, coxae and trochanters yellow-brown, sternum light yellow-brown except darker at margin, pedipalpal coxae yellow-brown shading to pale yellow along anterior margin; legs and pedipalpi dorsally dark yellow-brown, light yellow-brown ventrally on patellae and tibiae; abdomen faded to yellow-white. Carapace 6.0 long, 5.1 wide, height at thoracic fovea $0.29 \times$ carapace width; smooth. Caput inclined (Fig. 23A); height $1.33 \times$ that at thoracic fovea, $0.74 \times$ carapace width; median ocular setae situated behind and between AME, two pairs of setae positioned anterior to this; clypeus $0.55 \times$ length OAL, margin procurved. Thoracic fovea recurved and tripartite, width $0.19 \times$ that of carapace, $1.33 \times$ wider than long, with pair of prefoveal setae. Ocular area width $0.52 \times$ caput, $2.22 \times$ wider than long; AER 2.0 wide, $1.14 \times$ width PER. Ratio of eyes: AME: ALE: PME: PLE: 1.0: 2.13: 1.4: 1.2, diameter AME 0.27; AME separated by $0.45 \times$ their diameter, PME by $5 \times$ their diameter. Ocular quadrangle $1.43 \times$ wider than long, posterior width $1.64 \times$ anterior. Sternum 4.1 long, 3.1 wide, widest behind coxa II and narrowed anteriorly, setose laterally and sparsely setose on surface; single thorn situated posterior to labial suture; coxae I with 3–5, II with 17–20, and III with 35–37 thorns; sigilla 2.2 long, 1.0 wide, shallow, irregularly shaped, adjacent to coxa II, width $0.31 \times$ width sternum, distance between $0.5 \times$ distance from margin. Labial sigilla distinct, swollen; labium with 27 and pedipalpal coxae with 34–36 cuspules; labium 0.85 long, 1.15 wide, pedipalpal coxae 1.95 long, 1.1 wide, apex produced to a sharp point. Chelicerae 2.1 long, promargin of fang furrow with 3 teeth, retromargin with 1 large basal

tooth, pro- and retromargin interspersed with 7 denticles, with pale swelling at base of tooth rows. Femur I 0.84, tibia I 0.49, femur IV 0.83, and tibia IV $0.52 \times$ carapace width. Spination: pedipalpus: tibia v1-0-0, tarsus p 1-1-1-1, r 0-1-1-0; leg I: tibia p 2-4-2-4, r 3-4-3-3-3, d 14 thorns at apex of tibia, metatarsus p 5-4-1a, r 4-4-3-1a, tarsus p 1-1-1, r 1-1-1; leg II: tibia p 2-1-3-1-3, r 1-2-2-1-2, d 27 thorns at apex of tibia, metatarsus p 3-3-2-1a, r 0-2-2-2, tarsus p 1-1-1-1, r 1-0-0; leg III: patella with approximately 60, tibia with approximately 110, metatarsus with approximately 130, and tarsus with approximately 70 spinules; leg IV: patella with approximately 70 spinules and tibia with approximately 80 stout setae, metatarsus p 0-0-1-1a. Femur II with proximal ventral rows of 10–15 stout setae. STC teeth (pro-retro): I, II, III (2-2), IV (1-1); ITC simple, pedipalpal claw with 1 tooth (Fig. 23F). Leg measurements (Femur + Patella + Tibia + Metatarsus + Tarsus = [Total]): I: $4.3 + 2.3 + 2.5 + 2.1 + 1.1 = [12.25]$; II: $3.75 + 2.25 + 2.2 + 1.8 + 1.5 = [11.25]$; III: $3.05 + 1.9 + 2.15 + 1.9 + 1.5 = [10.5]$; IV: $4.25 + 2.45 + 2.7 + 2.15 + 2.15 = [13.7]$; pedipalpus: $2.9 + 1.25 + 1.4 + (\text{absent}) + 1.25 = [6.25]$. Abdomen 11.0 long, 7.0 wide, sparsely covered with short setae. Spermathecae not removed from type specimens, but glandular covering visible through cuticle suggests they are like those described from other specimens below (Figs. 23D–E, 26A–C).

Variation (N = 4).—Total length 16.5–19.4; height at fovea $0.2–0.29 \times$ carapace width. Caput width $0.73–0.78 \times$ carapace width, height $1.33–2.08 \times$ height at thoracic fovea; width ocular area $0.43–0.52 \times$ caput width, PLE $0.4–0.75 \times$ PME; clypeus length $0.33–0.55 \times$ OAL; thoracic fovea width $1.33–2.12 \times$ length. Cheliceral fang furrow interspersed with 4–8 denticles (Figs. 23C, 24E). Sternum with or without cuspules, sigilla oval to irregularly shaped; labium with 19–39, pedipalpal coxae with 40–45 cuspules; coxa I with 0–6, coxa II with 24–37, and coxa III with 35–45 thorns. Tibia I (Fig. 24A) with 11–19, metatarsus I with 7–14 retroventral, tibia II with 6–15 proventral spines. STC with 1–2 teeth. Spermathecae (N=6 specimens) length $0.55–0.84 \times$ distance between them and $1.12–1.35 \times$ head diameter, diameter head $3.12–4.0 \times$ diameter stalk, head length $2.14–4.0 \times$ length stalk (Figs. 23D–E, 26A–C).

Material Examined.—MADAGASCAR: (no other locality) 1954 A. Verdier (3 females, MRAC 147.158); Le Barbier No. 29–1920, “Fage det. Revu par Dresco en 1974” (19 females, MNHN AR4136, 1 female, CASC); Central Madagascar, Rev. Deans Cowans (lectotype and paralectotype females, BMNH).



5.0mm

FIGURE 22. *Micromesomma cowani*, female from MRAC, dorsal. Illustration by JS.

[From Griswold, C. E. & J. Ledford. 2001. A monograph of the migid trap door spiders of Madagascar and review of the world genera (Araneae, Mygalomorphae, Migidae). Occas. Pap. Calif. Acad. Sci. 151: 72].

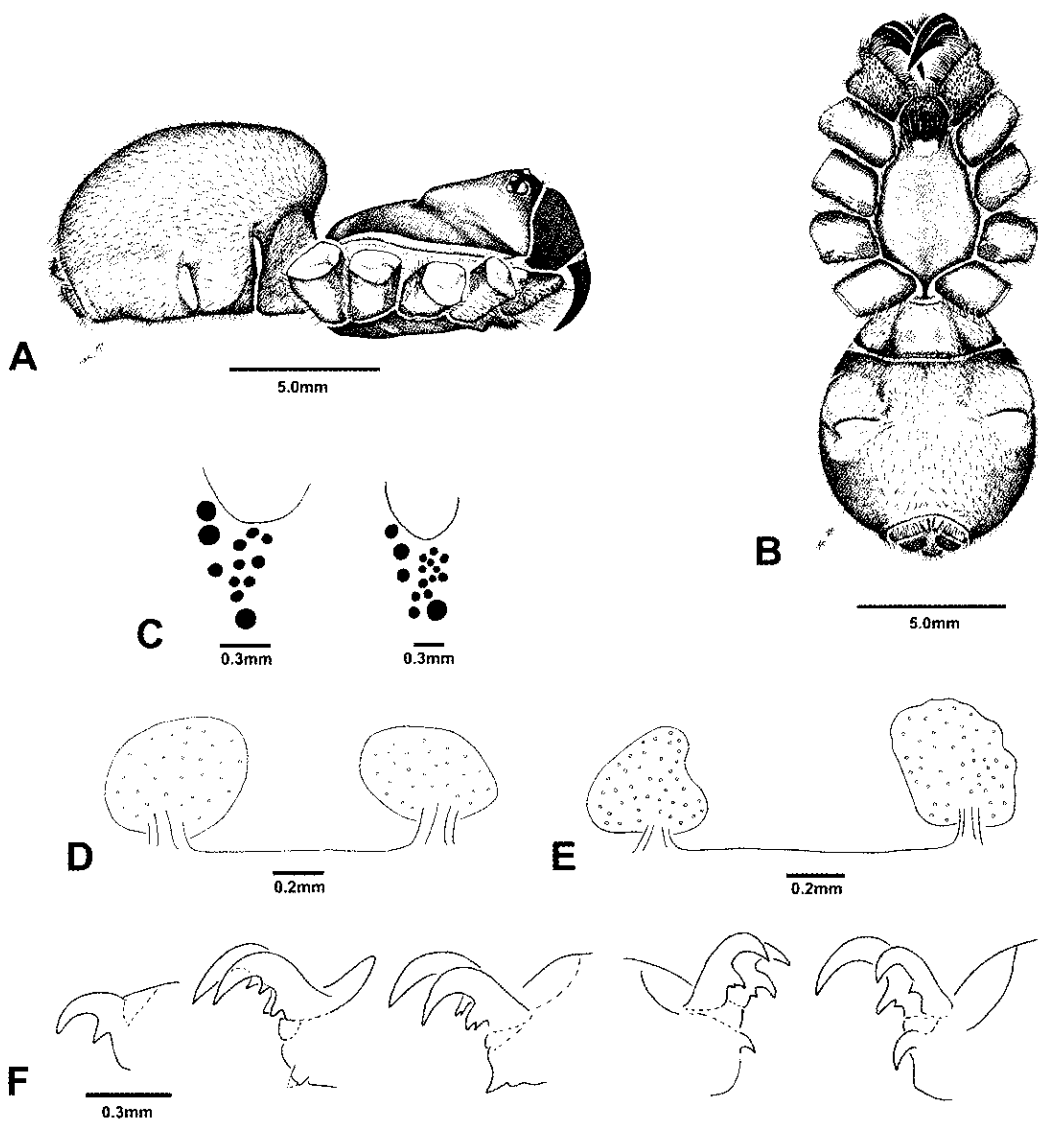


FIGURE 23. *Micromesomma cowani*. A–C, E. Female from MRAC. D. Female from MNHN. F. Lectotype female from BMNH. A. Lateral. B. Ventral. C. Dentition of right chelicera of two individuals. D, E. Spermathecae, dorsal. F. Tarsal claws: pedipalp, left leg I retrolateral, left leg II retrolateral, left leg III prolateral, right leg IV prolateral. Illustrations A, B by JS, C–E by JL, F by CG.

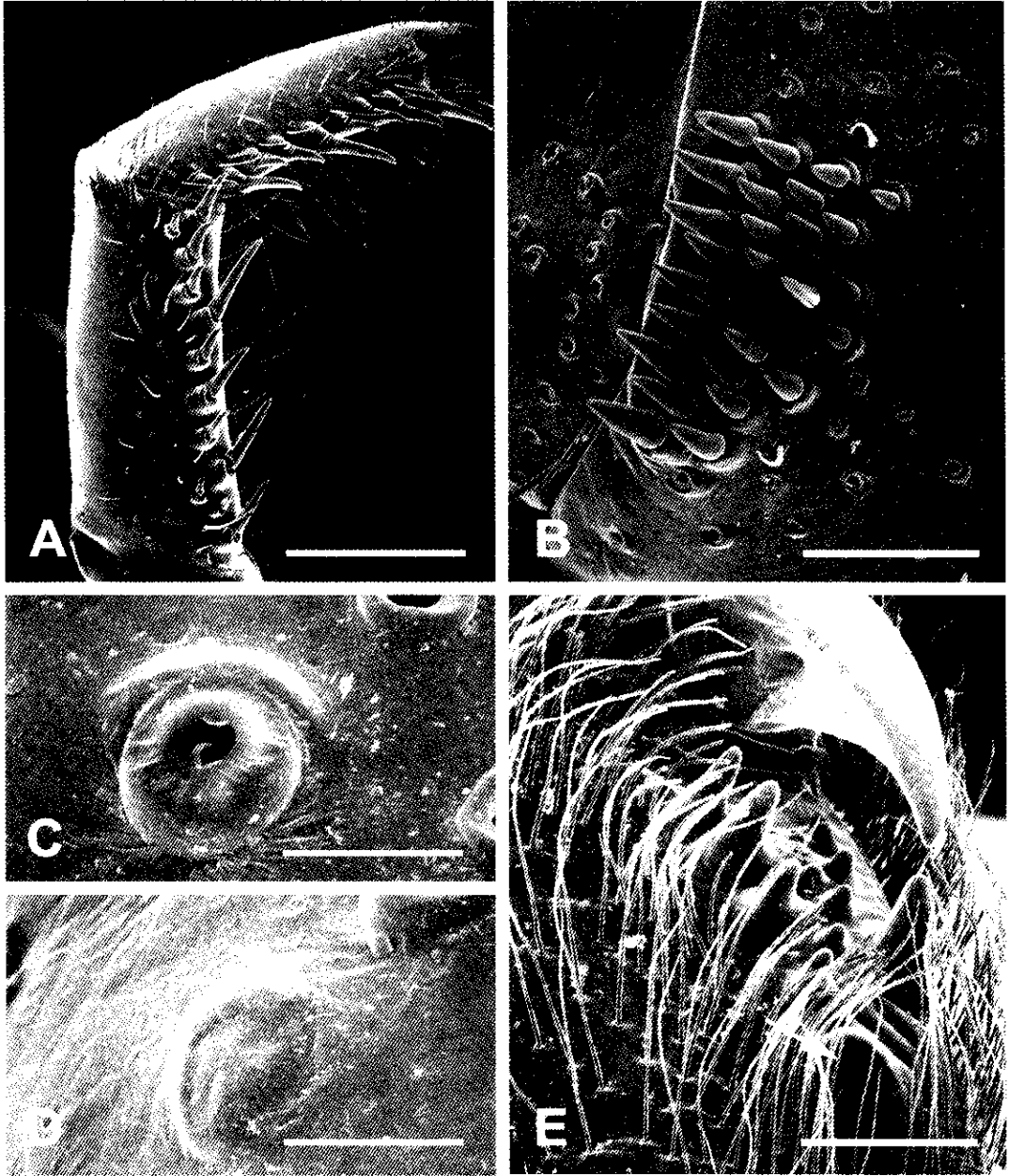


FIGURE 24. *Micromesomma cowani*, female from MNHN. A. Leg I, retrolateral. B. Tibia-metatarsus I junction, dorsal, showing thorns. C. Tarsus IV trichobothrial base. D. Tarsal organ IV. E. Right chelicera. Arrow to intercheliceral basal swelling. Scale bars: A = 1000 μm , B = 231 μm , C, D = 38 μm , E = 600 μm .

[From Griswold, C. E. & J. Ledford. 2001. A monograph of the migid trap door spiders of Madagascar and review of the world genera (Araneae, Mygalomorphae, Migidae). Occas. Pap. Calif. Acad. Sci. 151: 74].

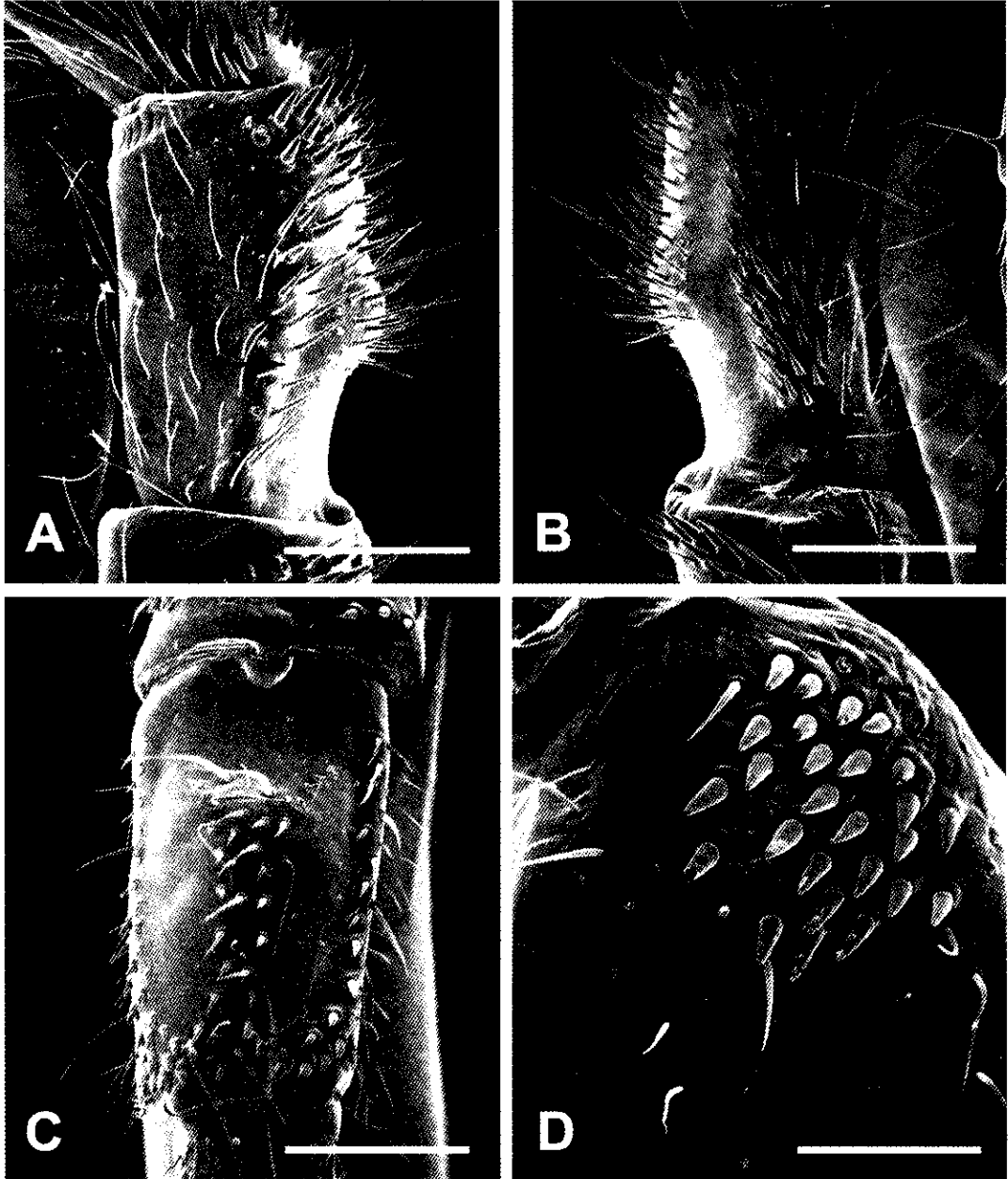


FIGURE 25. A, B, D. *Micromesomma cowani*, female from MNHN. C. *Paramigas oracle*, female from Talatakely, Madagascar. A–C. Tibia III. A. Prolateral, B. Retrolateral. C. Dorsal. D. Coxa III showing thorns. Arrow to prolateral ridge of tibia III. Scale bars: A, B = 750 μm , C = 600 μm , D = 300 μm .

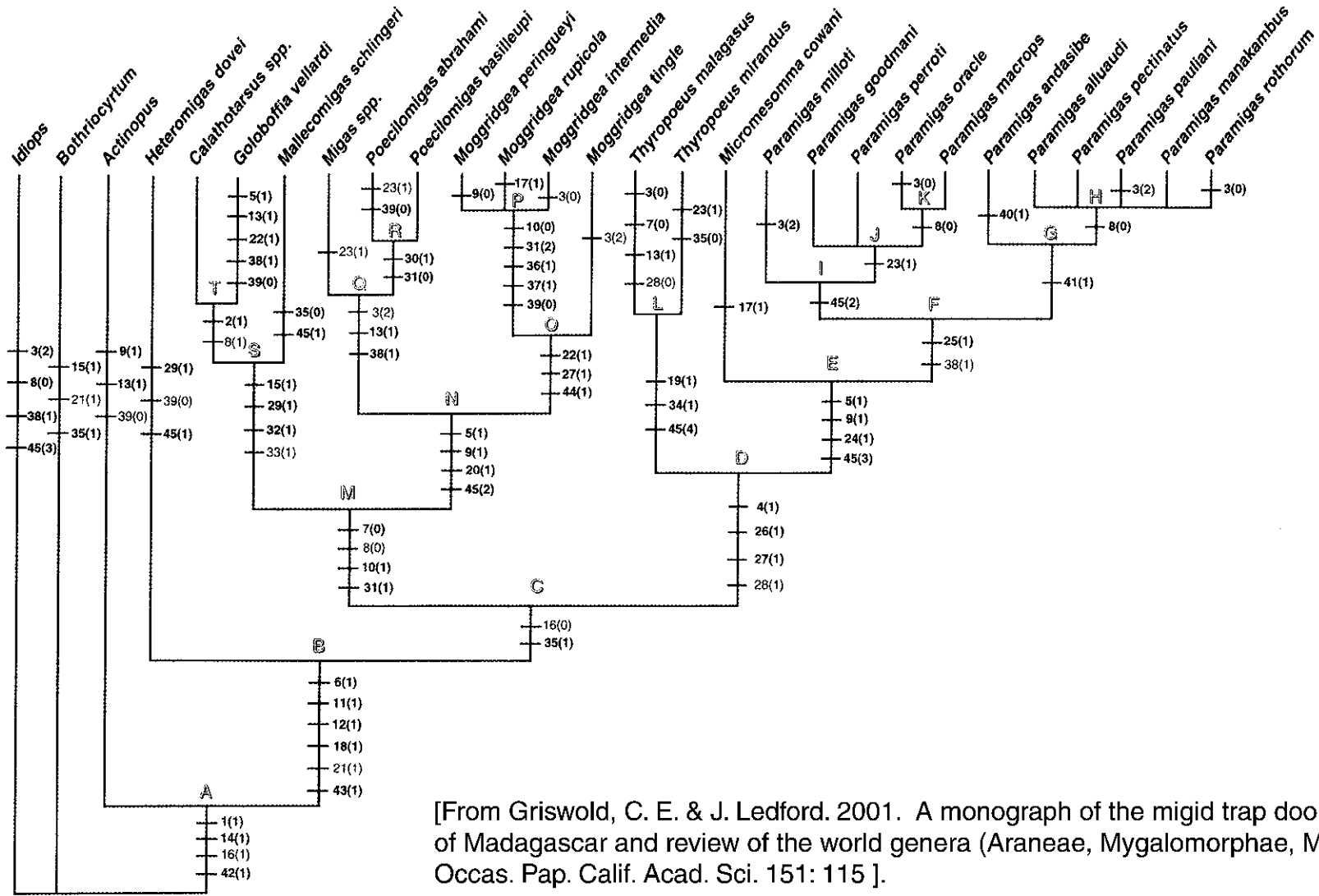
[From Griswold, C. E. & J. Ledford. 2001. A monograph of the migid trap door spiders of Madagascar and review of the world genera (Araneae, Mygalomorphae, Migidae). Occas. Pap. Calif. Acad. Sci. 151: 75].



FIGURE 26. Spermathecae of *Micromesomma cowani*, dorsal. A, C. MNHN females. B. MRAC female.

Scale bars: = 0.2 mm.

[From Griswold, C. E. & J. Ledford. 2001. A monograph of the migid trap door spiders of Madagascar and review of the world genera (Araneae, Mygalomorphae, Migidae). Occas. Pap. Calif. Acad. Sci. 151: 76].



[From Griswold, C. E. & J. Ledford. 2001. A monograph of the migid trap door spiders of Madagascar and review of the world genera (Araneae, Mygalomorphae, Migidae). *Occas. Pap. Calif. Acad. Sci.* 151: 115].

FIGURE 65. Preferred cladogram for Migidae, 96 steps, c.i. = 0.52, r.i. = 0.76. Character changes are marked on branches [character (state)]; those in bold represent unambiguous optimizations. Bremer support (decay indices) for the nodes are A (2), B (3), C (1), D (4), E (5), F (1), G—K (0), L (4), M (2), N (>5), O (4), P (4), Q (3), R (1), S (2) and T (1).

A *Thyropoeus malagasus*

B *Thyropoeus mirandus*

C *Paramigas alluaudi*

D *Paramigas andasibe*

E *Paramigas goodmani*

F *Paramigas macrops*

G *Paramigas manakambus*

H *Paramigas milloti*

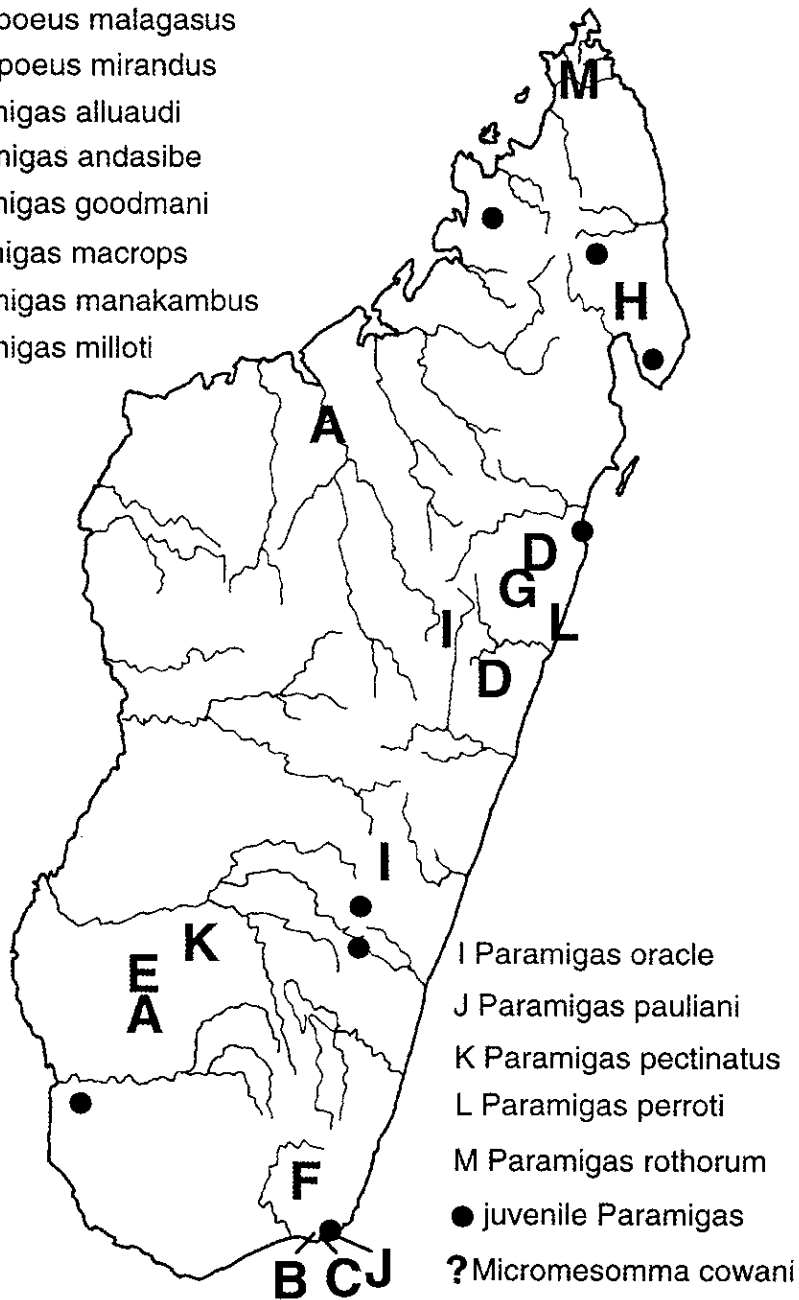


FIGURE 68. Map of Madagascar showing records of Migidae. Locality data for juvenile *Paramigas* are listed in Table 1

[From Griswold, C. E. & J. Ledford. 2001. A monograph of the migid trap door spiders of Madagascar and review of the world genera (Araneae, Mygalomorphae, Migidae). Occas. Pap. Calif. Acad. Sci. 151: 117].