

## Range extension of *Ceratogyrus sanderi* Strand, 1906 (Araneae: Theraphosidae)

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The range of the baboon spider *Ceratogyrus sanderi* Strand, 1906, previously only known to occur in Namibia, has been extended into the northern and western regions of Zimbabwe.

Keywords: distribution, *Ceratogyrus sanderi*, Araneae, Theraphosidae.

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De Wet & Dippenaar-Schoeman (1991) revised the genus *Ceratogyrus* Pocock, which is endemic to the southern African region between the 16°S and 28°S latitudes. Specimens of *Ceratogyrus* from the Natural History Museum of Zimbabwe, Bulawayo, were sent to De Wet for inclusion in this revision, and ten were identified as *C. sanderi*. The genus *Ceratogyrus* is characterised by a foveal tubercle, the shape of which is species specific, and ranges from a mound to a long horn. In *C. sanderi* the foveal tubercle in both male and female is a low rectangular dome surrounded by a recurved U-shaped groove. These ten specimens have a foveal tubercle as above and female spermathecal variation is within the limits illustrated by De Wet & Dippenaar-Schoeman (1991). These authors, however, only included NMZ/A1271 from Bellerode Farm, Windhoek, Namibia, in the revision and overlooked the other nine specimens. I have re-examined this material and four other specimens recently accessioned and concur with De Wet on the identity of *C. sanderi*. De Wet & Dippenaar-Schoeman (1991) show *C. sanderi* to occur only in Namibia. The material from Zimbabwe, held in the Bulawayo collection extends the range of *C. sanderi* significantly (Fig. 1).

The two distinct populations illustrated (Fig. 1) are artificially separated as a result of the little collecting in northern Botswana, southern Angola and Zambia.

### Material Examined

NAMIBIA: Windhoek, Bellerode Farm, 2217C1, male, NMZ/A1271, 9.iii.1975;

ZIMBABWE: Mazoe, 1730D2, male, female, NMZ/A1471, 10.iv.1969; Umvukwes, Nyamanyesti, 1630D4, male, NMZ/A1490, 17.vi.1980; Dete, 1826D2, immature, NMZ/A2816, 6.ii.1985; Nyamanyesti North, 1630D4, female, NMZ/A4380, 9.xi.1985; Kasetsheti River, Kazuma Pan National Park, 1825B3, female, immature, NMZ/A6662, 13.iv.1988; Kariba Heights, 1628D2, male, NMZ/A7751, 15.v.1969; Mazoe Dam, 1731C1, female, NMZ/A8577, 28.v.1989; Bulawayo, 2028B1, female, NMZ/A9041, 1979; Hwange, 1826A4, immature, NMZ/A9044, xii.1987; Gwenya School, 1829A4, male, NMZ/A10239, 9.v.1989; Empress Mine, 1829A4, male, NMZ/A10242, 1.vi.1989; Gwenya School, 1829A4, female, NMZ/A10244, 3.vii.1989.

### Reference

DE WET, J.I. AND A.S. DIPPENAAR-SCHOEMAN. 1991. A revision of the genus *Ceratogyrus* Pocock (Araneae: Theraphosidae). *Koedoe* 34(2): 39-68.

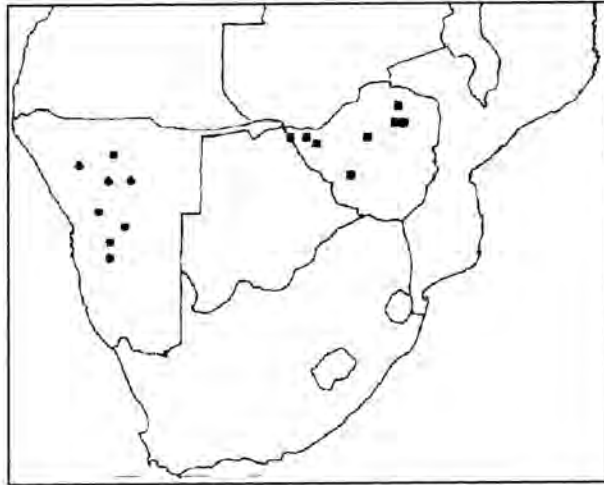


Fig. 1. The distribution of *Ceratogyrus sanderi* Strand as illustrated by De Wet & Dippenaar-Schoeman (1991) (●) and material from Zimbabwe, in the Bulawayo Museum collection (■).