

W dniu 2019-10-29 o 07:10, Jerzy Prószyński pisze:

To the Editors, Members of the Board & Members of Experts Board
of the World Spider Catalog

Ladies & Gentlemen,

Salticidae Database Part II <http://salticidae.pl/index.html>
& Part I <http://salticidae.pl/0-Foreword-INDEX-2014.html>

On behalf of taxonomists doing research on Salticidae (Araneae) now, and those who may undertake that in the future, I move to reinstate links from species referred to in the records of the WSC to pictorial documentation of diagnostic characters in the Salticidae Database (Part II) by Prószyński and to add similar links to Part I of the same Database.

Links to the diagnostic drawings in Database Part II were active in the WSC from 2016 till October 28, 2019, as long as relative database (MSQL), sitting at <http://www.peckhamia.com/salticidae/> worked correctly. In October 25th it inexplicably ceased to work and Part II disappeared from the screen. For that reason, following advice from Dr David Hill, I have established own private domain salticidae.pl for housing Database (both Parts I & II), the site is already paid for 10 years in advance, to ensure permanency.

Database of Salticidae is specializing in providing comparative data on diagnostic characters to approximately 4800 recognizable species of Salticidae, demonstrated for separate species in Part II, and on comparative charts showing diversity of species within approximately 700 genera of Salticidae in Part I. The organization of illustrations within both parts of Database is unique and particularly transparent, facilitating understanding diversity pattern within family Salticidae worldwide - as described heretofore in world literature. As impartial demonstration of data it can serve to document, in non-biased way, any of competing hypotheses, in comparative charts it illustrates also parallel arrangement of diagnostic characters of the molecular alternative system by Maddison's contents, there is even separate part of database devoted to Maddison's views ([http://salticidae.pl/M_0 Title page.html](http://salticidae.pl/M_0_Title_page.html)).

Maddison himself evaluated database in the following way:

" ... In order to assess morphological similarities and synapomorphies, besides consulting the literature, **I made heavy use of Prószyński's (2015) compilation of drawings**, and to a lesser extent Metzner's (2015). Not only does Prószyński's compilation bring together in one place most of the illustrations in the literature, but it also includes many illustrations of Prószyński's that are not otherwise published, including of type specimens. **This resource had an important influence** at every stage of this project, for every tribe and subtribe, even

where not directly cited below. Without it, the current classification would have taken far longer to achieve.

... Since Prószyński's (1976) work, **the male palp** has been an important focus of salticid systematics. It provides convincing or potential synapomorphies for many groups."

. **Maddison W.P. 2015.** A phylogenetic classification of jumping spiders (Araneae: Salticidae). *Journal of Arachnology* 43:233.

While number of pure taxonomist of Salticidae dwindles now, those still active made heavy use of database - it was opened **2321 times since October 30th, 2016**, not counting those who entered it directly by the links in the WSC. For those arachnologist lack o direct links in the WSC will be heavy blow, also may be irreparable loss for those who will start taxonomic revisions in the future.

I move to leave aside petty grievances of my competitors, incensed by differences in evaluation of synonymies and/or placement of some species, as insignificant in relation to the whole problem of diversity of Salticidae worldwide. I move also to disregard personal insults hurled against me by Members of the WSC team (2019), apparently aggravated by my defense (see enclosed publications). There are other ways to solve such differences than discriminative removal of links to my database, which harms non-involved, bona fide taxonomists.

I appeal further to all and each of the addresses to acquaint themselves once more with the present day appearance of all submitted parts of Database. I stress that I will be grateful for each individual addressee to answer my present letter, because all previous correspondence remained unanswered.

With due regards

Jerzy Prószyński

(Professor Dr hab., Professor Emeritus in Museum and Institute of Zoology,
Polish Academy of Sciences).