

New data on the distribution of *Textrix rubrofoliata* Pesarini, 1990 (Araneae Agelenidae) in Italy

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ABSTRACT

The spider *Textrix rubrofoliata* Pesarini, 1990 (Araneae Agelenidae), species known in Italy only in Sicily and Trentino-Alto Adige, was found and identified in Campo Calabro, province of Reggio Calabria, Calabria (Italy). This is the first record of the species for Calabria. Additional notes on taxonomy, distribution and biology are provided.

KEY WORDS

New data; Araneae; range updating.

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INTRODUCTION

A recent study (Bolzern et al., 2023) has put *Textrix intermedia* Wunderlich, 2008 in synonymy with *Textrix rubrofoliata* Pesarini, 1990.

Textrix intermedia (Araneae Agelenidae) in its first “scientific appearance” (Gallardo et al., 1986) was reported as a possible hybrid between the species *T. caudata* L. Koch, 1872 and *T. pinicola* Simon, 1875. Wunderlich (2008) observed similar specimens in France but in the absence of experimental evidence on the possibility of the hybridization mentioned above, despite the presence of both species (*T. caudata* and *T. intermedia*) in the study areas, he describes scientifically the specimens as a new species, giving them the name *T. intermedia*. A more recent study by Barrientos et al. (2019) observed the presence of *T. intermedia* also in Spain, showing a tendency to the position of Wunderlich (2008) for the same reasons. In Italy the presence of *T. caudata* and *T. pinicola* is known, but their real distribution is not known due to the lack of in-depth regional studies.

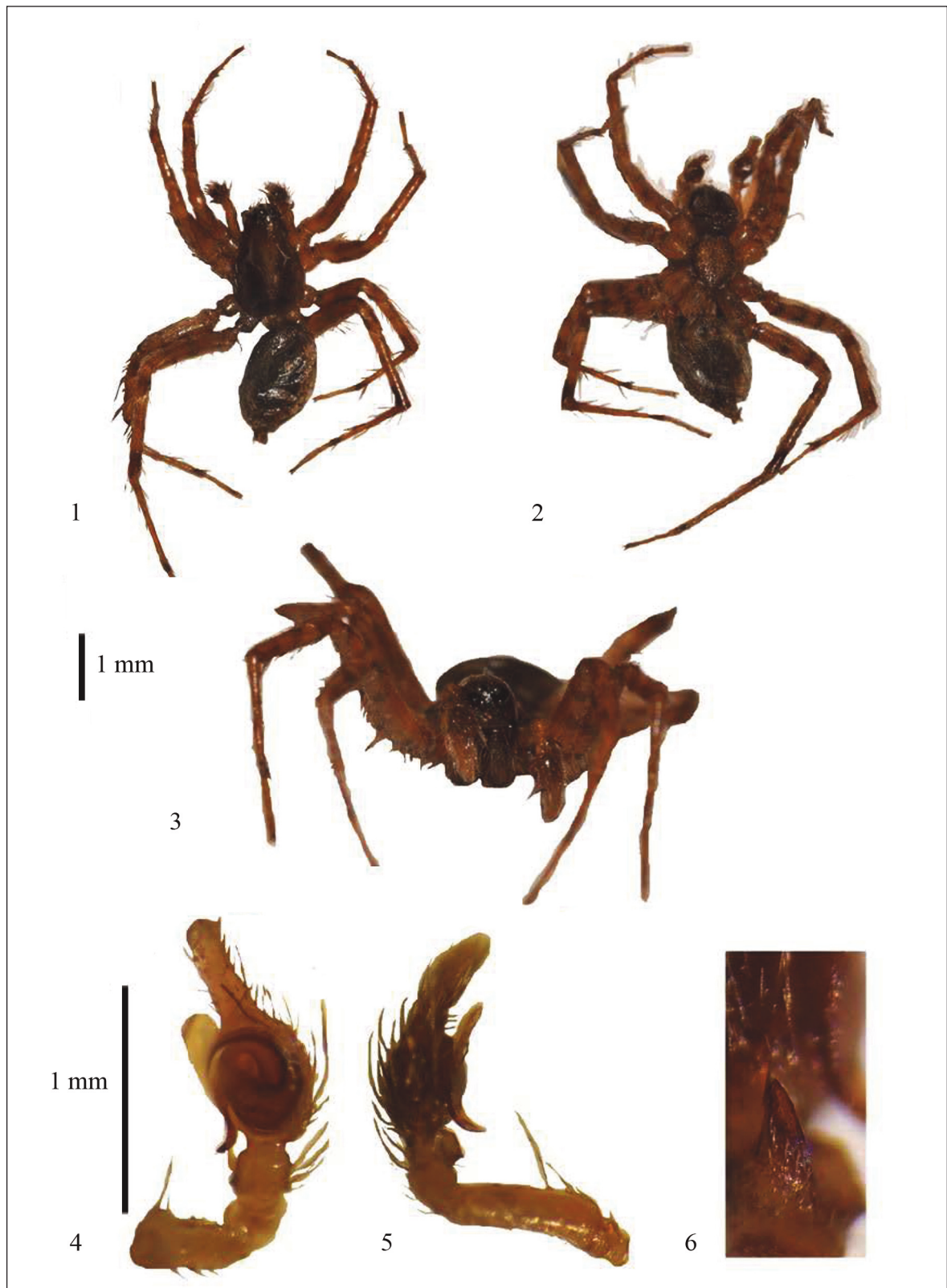
The specimen observed here was, during the period of the congress (September 2022), associated with the aforementioned species *T. intermedia*. But considering the recent study by Bolzern et al. (2023), the data is no longer a first Italian report, but it is still a first observation in Calabria, expanding knowledge of the distribution of this species.

RESULTS

Textrix rubrofoliata Pesarini, 1990 (Figs. 1–5)

MATERIAL EXAMINED. ITALY • 1 specimen; Calabria, Reggio Calabria, Campo Calabro, Matiniti; 330 m asl; 13 Aug. 2018; legit F. Giovine; 1 male in vinegar trap; Antonino Dentici collection (Palermo, Italy).

REMARKS. The study area, located on the hilly slopes of the Aspromonte massif, not far from the Strait of Messina, hosts maquis and olive groves along residual cork and oak woods (*Quercus suber*



Figures 1–5. *Tetrrix rubrofoliata* from Calabria (Italy). Figs. 1–3: dorsal, ventral and frontal view. Figs. 4, 5: palp frontal and lateral view; Fig. 6: particular of the retrolateral apophysis.

L. and *Quercus virgiliana* Ten. s.l.). The examined specimen was collected in a pitfall trap filled with vinegar, placed under *Quercus suber* a few days before the finding.

CONCLUSIONS

This is the first record of *Textrix rubrofoliata* for Calabria (Italy). The specimen found is a male, which makes the female still unknown, of which there is still no description and this leaves room for future studies in the area of the find in order to fill this gap.

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