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On some Palaearctic species of the spider genus *Agyneta* Hull, 1911, with description of four new species (Aranei: Linyphiidae)

О некоторых палеарктических видах пауков рода *Agyneta* Hull, 1911 с описанием четырех новых видов (Aranei: Linyphiidae)

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KEY WORDS: Spiders, Linyphiidae, *Agyneta*, taxonomy, new species, distribution.
КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА: Пауки, Linyphiidae, *Agyneta*, таксономия, новые виды, распространение.

ABSTRACT: Four new species of the *Agyneta similis*-group are described: *A. insulana* sp.n. (Sakhalin and Kurile islands), *A. saaristoi* sp.n. (middle flow region of Volga River to South Siberia), *A. mesasiatica* sp.n. (Caucasus and Kopetdagh Mts., Middle Asia), and *A. alpica* sp.n. (Alps). The relationships and possible origins of this group are discussed. Two further *Agyneta* species are figured, including *A. equestris* (L. Koch, 1881) new to the fauna of the Ukraine. *A. ressli* (Wunderlich, 1973) has been ejected from the Russian list.

РЕЗЮМЕ: Описаны четыре новых вида пауков из рода *Agyneta*, входящих в группу *Agyneta similis*: *A. insulana* sp.n. (Сахалин и Курильские о-ва), *A. saaristoi* sp.n. (от Среднего Поволжья до Южной Сибири), *A. mesasiatica* sp.n. (Кавказ и Средняя Азия) и *A. alpica* sp.n. (Альпы). Обсуждено распространение видов группы *similis*, а также возможные пути ее генезиса. Приведены рисунки для двух малоизвестных видов *Agyneta*, в т.ч. *A. equestris* (L. Koch, 1881), впервые отмеченного для фауны России. Вид *Agyneta ressli* выведен из состава фауны России.

Introduction

The spider genus *Agyneta* Hull, 1911 is one of the most common and widespread in the entire Holarctic, yet its taxonomy remains insufficiently well-known. New collections accumulated recently in my hands have allowed not only to discriminate as many as four species new to science but also to rectify the Russian list. Below is thus a contribution to the *Agyneta* fauna of Russia [cf. Mikhailov, 1997].

Abbreviations

Abbreviations used in the text and figures: TA — terminal apophysis, L — lamella characteristica, E — embolus, Tm I — position of the metatarsal trichobothrium. The chaetotaxy formula refers to the number of dorsal spines on tibiae I–IV. The sequence of leg segments in measurement data is as follows: femur + patella + tibia + metatarsus + tarsus. All measurements are in mm. Scale — 0.1 mm.

ZMMU — the Zoological Museum of the Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia; PU — the Perm State University, Perm, Russia; ZMN — the Zoological Museum of the Institute for Systematics and Ecology of Animals, Novosibirsk, Russia; ZMT — the Zoological Museum of the Turku University, Finland; SMF — the Senckenberg Museum, Frankfurt a.M., Germany. Personal collections: KEC — Dr. K. Eskov, YMC — Dr. Y. Marusik, JWC — Dr. J. Wunderlich, KTC — Dr. K. Thaler, ATC — Dr. A. Tanasevitch.

Material and acknowledgements

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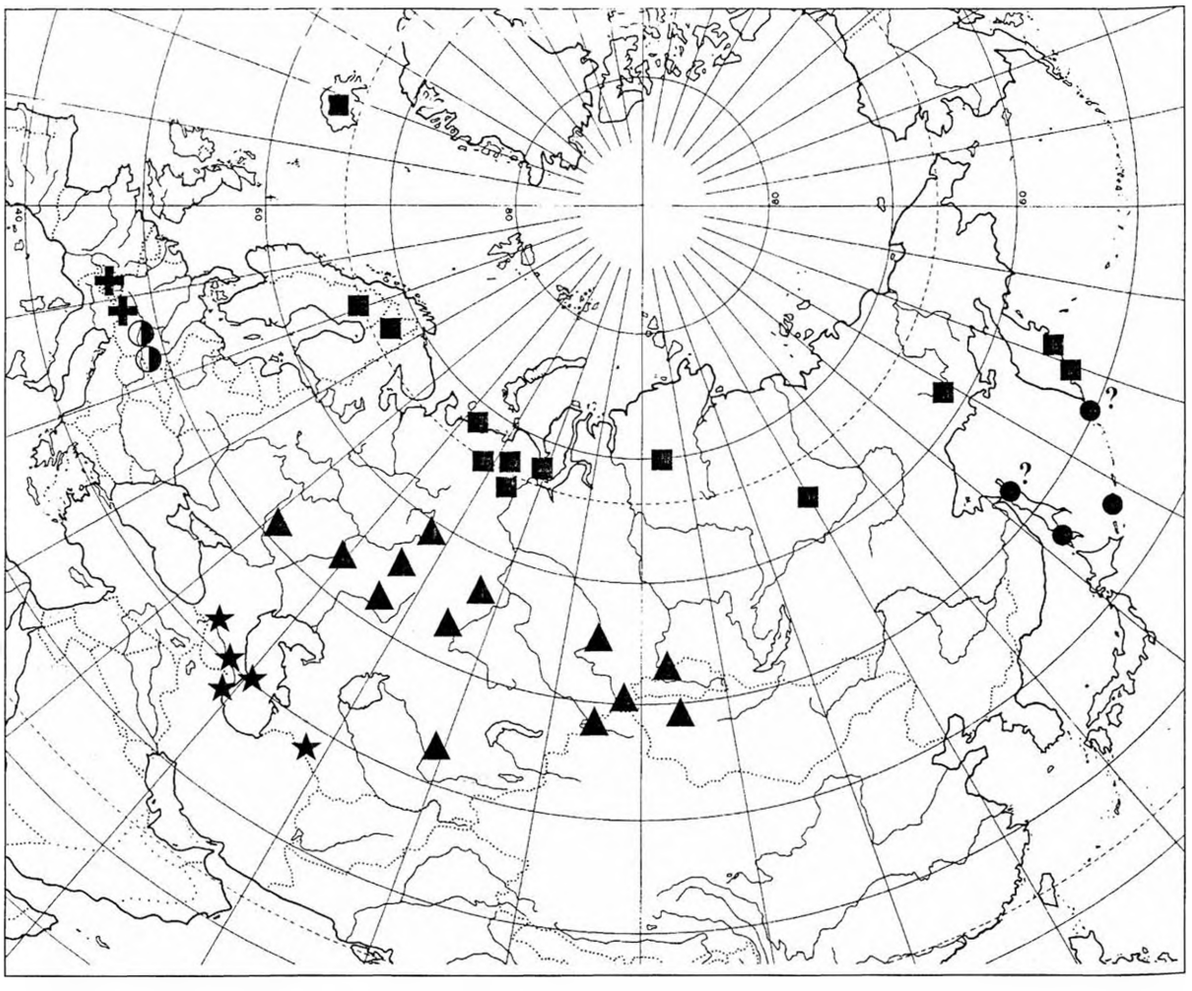
Type specimens are shared between the collections of ZMMU, ZMN, and ZMT, some paratypes are deposed in my personal collection (ATC).

The *Agyneta similis*-complex

Recently, Thaler et al. [1997] have noted remarkably close relations of *Agyneta similis* (Kulczyński, 1926), *A.*



Map. Distribution of the Palaearctic species of the *Agyneta similis*-group: ■ — *A. similis*; ● — *A. insulana*; ▲ — *A. saaristoi*; ★ — *A. mesasiatica*; ◑ — *A. milleri*; ✚ — *A. ressli* & *A. alpica*.

Карта. Распространение палеарктических видов группы *Agyneta similis*: ■ — *A. similis*; ● — *A. insulana*; ▲ — *A. saaristoi*; ★ — *A. mesasiatica*; ◑ — *A. milleri*; ✚ — *A. ressli* & *A. alpica*.

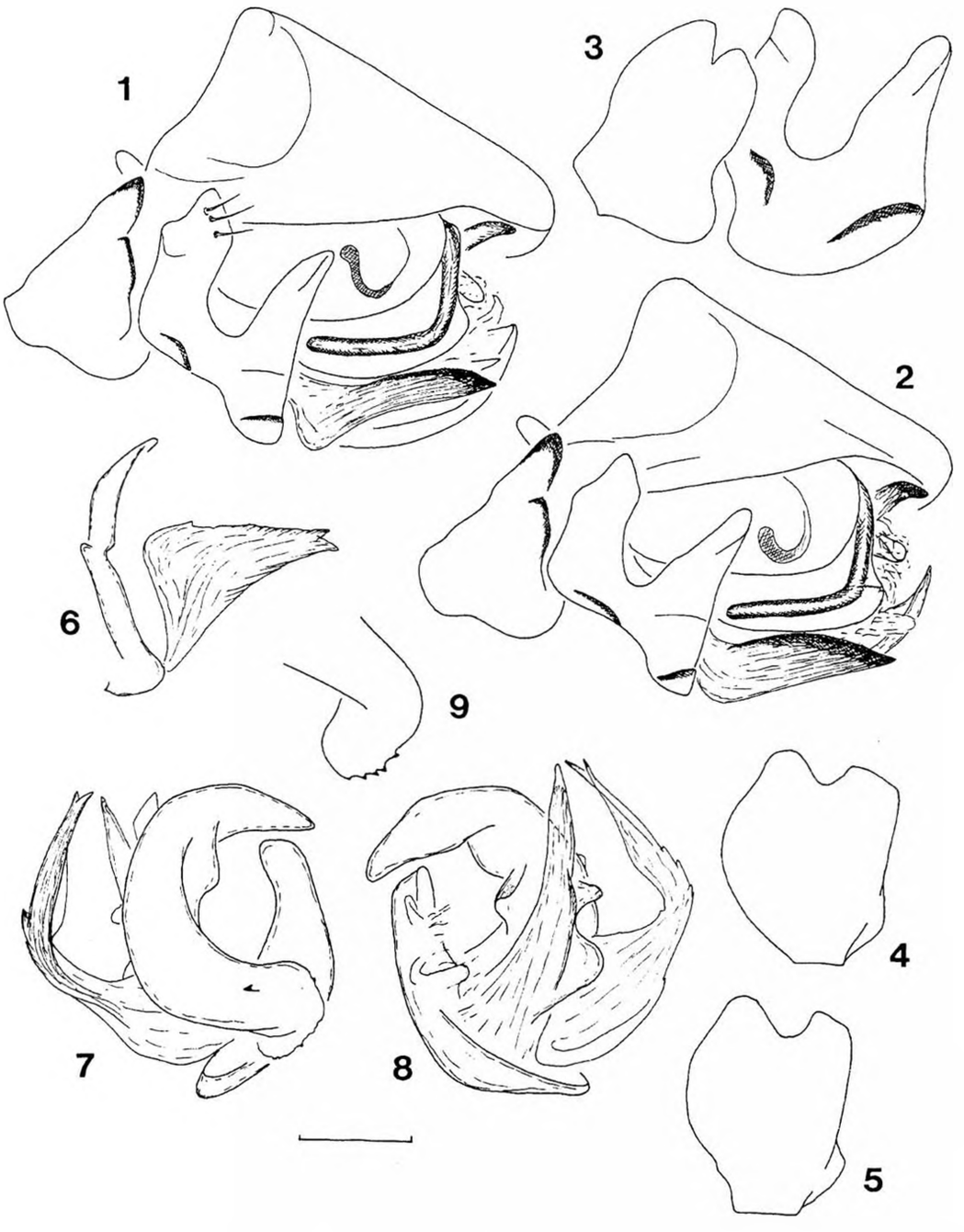
ressli (Wunderlich, 1973), *A. levinseni* (Sörensen, 1898), and *A. milleri* (Thaler, Buchar et Kůrka), 1997, **comb.n.** ex *Meioneta*, indicating correctly that the differences lie in some minor details of structure of the lamella characteristica only. So these species have been united into a single superspecies, with speciation accounted for by isolation during Pleistocene glaciations. Thaler et al. [op.cit.] have also questioned the reliability of the records of *A. ressli* in the Caucasus, Central Asia and the Urals versus the Alpine populations.

This has been rechecked and has completely confirmed the above doubts, i.e. the Caucasian and Urals populations of «*A. ressli*» are indeed different species, and none of them is conspecific with the Alpine one. Even the latter appears heterogeneous, with the nominative population considerably closer to the Caucasian than to the sympatric, Alpine one. Furthermore, *A. similis* also appears to represent a mixture of close allopatric species distinguished by minor morphological details of the lamella characteristica against the background of an almost identical structure of the remaining parts of the palps.

If one accepts the opinion of Thaler and al. [1997] that *A. similis*, *A. ressli*, *A. levinseni* and *A. milleri* form a complex of species, or a superspecies, derived as a result of allopatric fragmentation/isolation during the Pleistocene, the four new species described below (see also Map) undoubtedly belong to this complex and nicely fit in this model, yet expanding its European scale to a Palaearctic one.

Agyneta similis (Kulczyński, 1926)
Figs 1–28.

1926 *Micryphantes similis* Kulczyński: 51, tab. II, figs 12–14.
1935 *Syedra gracilis* — Sytshevskaja: 95.
1973 *Meioneta* (*Meioneta*) *similis* — Wunderlich: 419, fig. 39a.
1975 *Meioneta similis* — Palmgren: 27, figs 5, 6.
1985 *Agyneta similis* — Tanasevitch: 60 (examined).
1988 *Agyneta* (*Meioneta*) *similis* — Eskov: 106 (examined).
1992 *Agyneta similis* — Marusik, Eskov & Kim: 139 (examined).



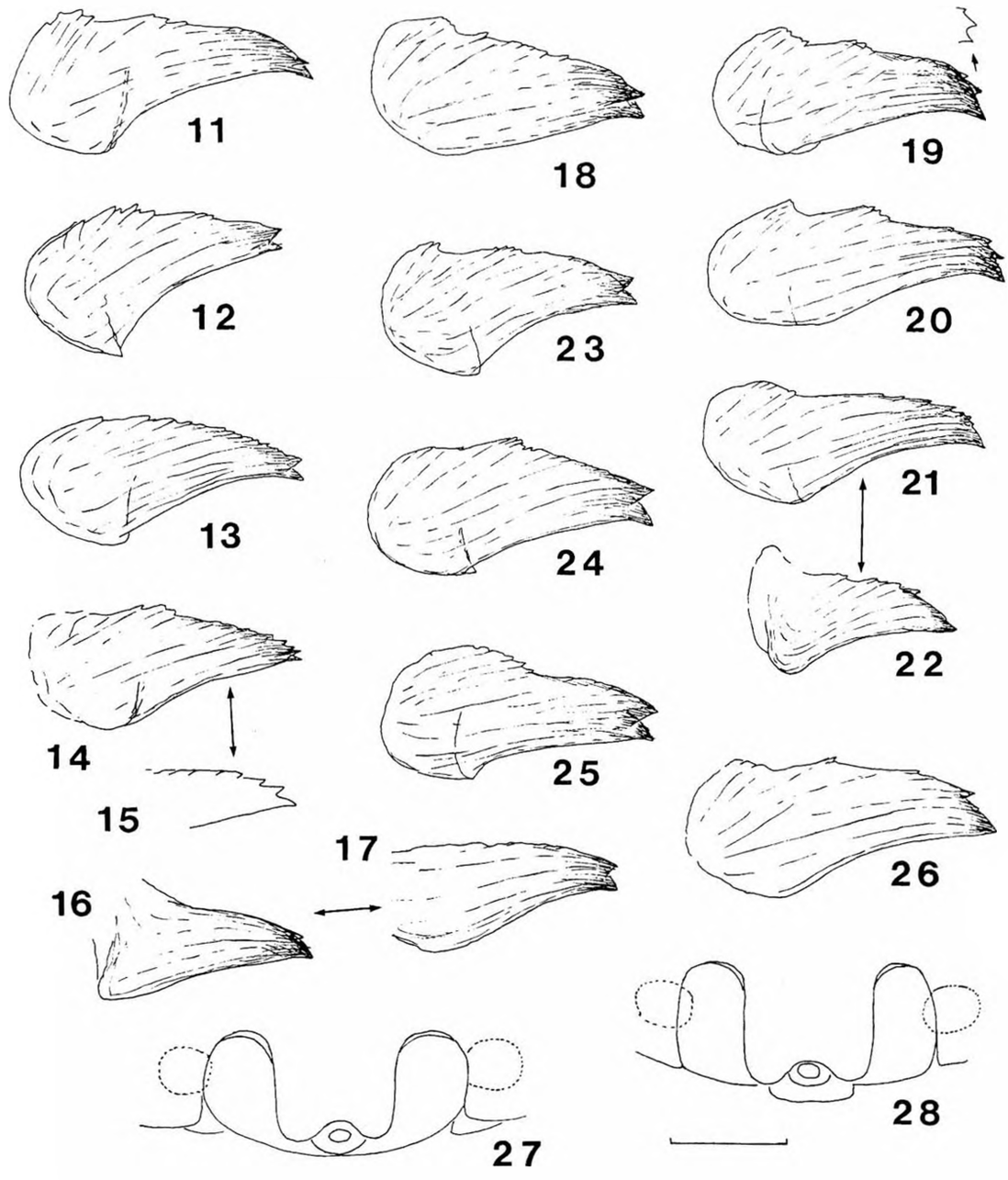
Figs 1–9. Details of palp structure of *Agyneta similis* (Kulczyński, 1926) (Kamchatka, Geysers Valley): 1,2 — right palp, 3 — palpal tibia & paracymbium, 4, 5 — palpal tibia (dorsal view), 6 — lamella characteristica, 7, 8 — embolic division (ventral and dorsal views, respectively), 9 — base of embolus.

Рис. 1–9. Строение пальпы *Agyneta similis* (Kulczyński, 1926) (Камчатка, Долина Гейзеров): 1, 2 — правая пальпа, 3 — голень пальпы и парацимбиум, 4, 5 — голень пальпы (вид сверху), 6 — lamella characteristica, 7, 8 — эмболюсный отдел (вид снизу и сверху, соответственно), 9 — основание эмболюса.

1993 *Agyneta similis* — Marusik, Eskov, Koponen & Vinokurov: 72 (examined).

Originally, this species was described from Kamchatka Peninsula by Kulczyński [1926] as a *Micryphantes*. Later, *A. similis* has been recorded in many places of Siberia, the Urals, Fennoscandia and Mongolia. Unfortunately, in many cases these records were based on misidentifications, with either *A. saaristoi* sp.n. [Heimer, 1985, Eskov, 1992, Eskov, Marusik, 1994, Eskov, Marusik, 1995, Marusik, Hippa & Koponen, 1996] or *A. insulana* sp.n. [Eskov, 1992, Marusik, Eskov, Logunov & Basarukin, 1993] actually involved (see below for details).

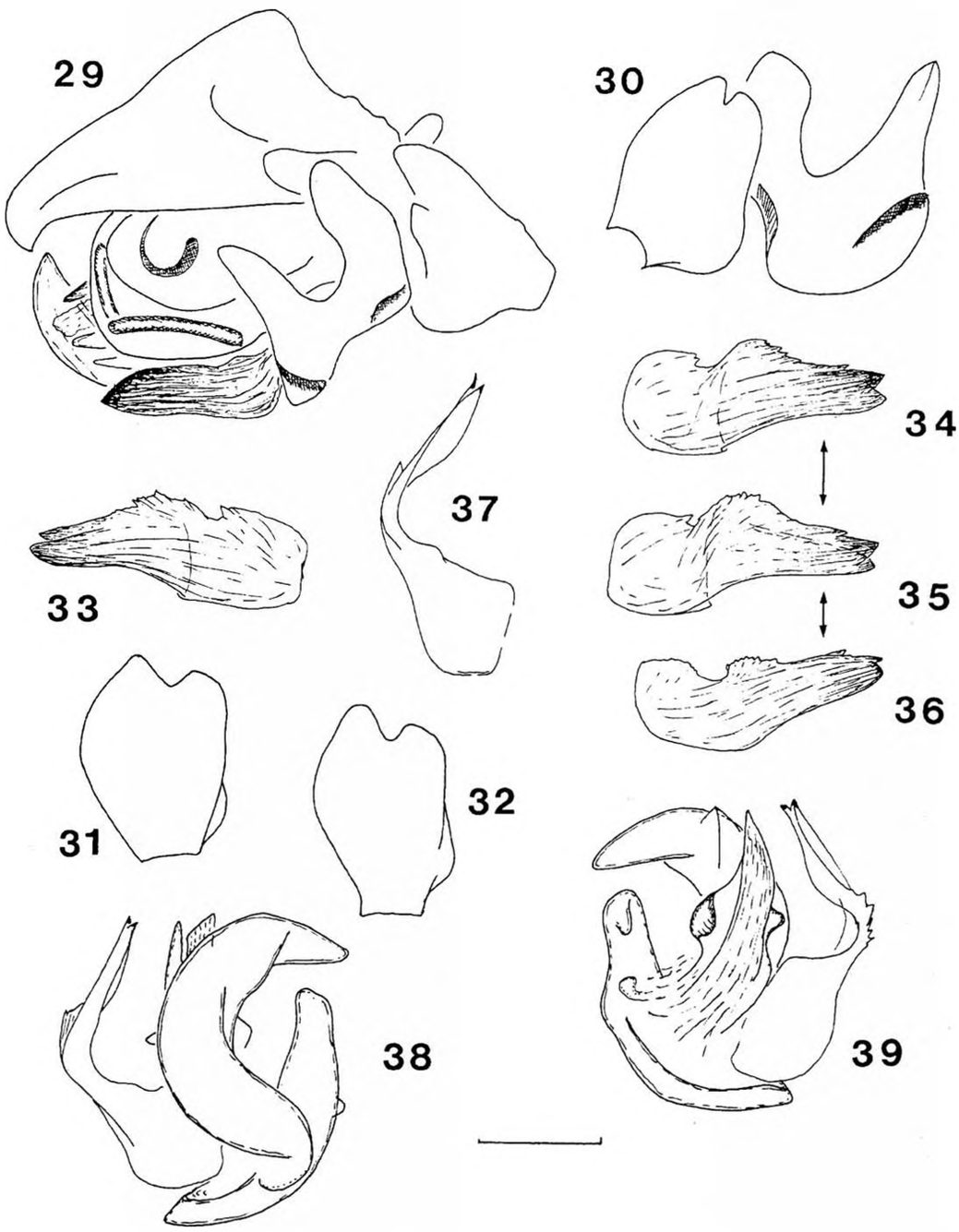
New and comparative material of *Agyneta similis* studied: 4 ♂♂, 5 ♀♀ (ATC), RUSSIA, Kamchatka Peninsula, Kronotsky



Figs 11–28. Lamella characteristica (11–26) and epigyne (27, 28) of *Agyneta similis* (Kulczyński, 1926): 11–15, 27 — Kamchatka, Geysers Valley, 16, 17, 28 — Yamal Peninsula, 18–22 — Polar Urals, 23 — Vorkuta, 24 — Shapkina River, 25 — Tobseda, 26 — Utsjoki Kevo Jesnalvaara (Finland).

Рис. 11–28. Lamella characteristica (11–26) и эпигина (27, 28) *Agyneta similis* (Kulczyński, 1926): 11–15, 27 — Камчатка, Долина Гейзеров, 16, 17, 28 — Ямал, 18–22 — Полярный Урал, 23 — Воркута, 24 — р. Шапкина, 25 — Тобседа, 26 — Utsjoki Kevo Jesnalvaara (Финляндия).

State Reserve, environs of Geysers Valley, 1,200 m a.s.l., mountain tundra, 2–3.X.1987, leg. A. Tanasevitch; 5 ♂♂, 23 ♀♀ (PU, № 302), southern Yamal Peninsula, middle flow of Khadyta-Yakha River, tundra, moss, pitfall trapping, VII.1981, leg. S. Esyunin; 4 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀ (ATC), Tyumen Area, Polar Urals Mts., Sob Valley, VIII.1983, leg. A. Tanasevitch; ♂♂, ♀♀ (ZMT) Polar Urals, Krasnyi Kamen, 1–16.VII.1994, leg. S. Koponen; 3 ♂♂, 1 ♀ (PU, № 303), Tyumen Area, Cispolar Urals, Neroika Mt., stony tundra, pitfall trapping, VI–VIII, 1988–1989, leg. A. Korobeinikov; 1 ♂ (ATC), Komi Republic, near Vorkuta, tundra, 25.VI.1982, leg. A. Tanasevitch (**a new record!**); 1 ♂ (ATC), Arkhangelsk Area, Nenetsky Autonomous Region, Bolshezemelskaya Tundra, upper flow of Shapkina River (67°30′N, 56°20′E), tundra, VII.1984, leg. A. Tanasevitch (**a new record!**); 2 ♂♂ (ATC), Arkhangelsk Area,

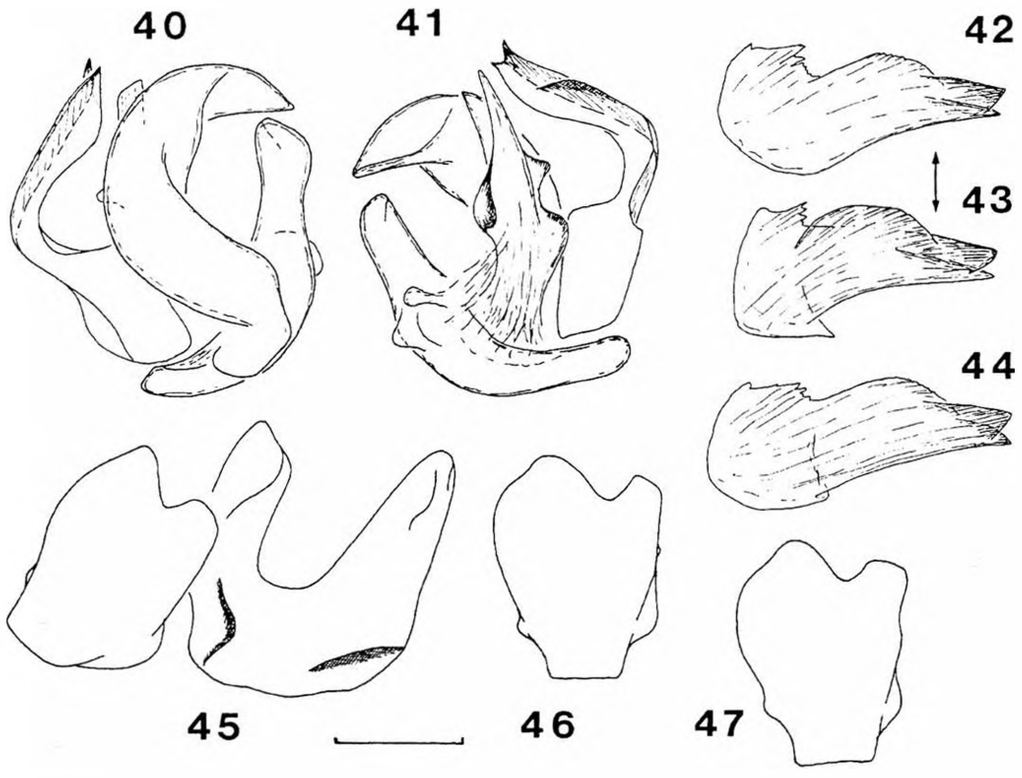


Figs 29–39. Details of palp structure of *Agyneta insulana* sp.n. (Iturup Island, holotype): 29 — left palp, 30 — palpal tibia & paracymbium, 31, 32 — palpal tibia, 33–37 — lamella characteristica (37 — ventral view!), 38, 39 — embolic division (ventral and dorsal views, respectively).

Рис. 29–39. Строение пальпы *Agyneta insulana* sp.n. (о-в Итуруп, голотип): 29 — левая пальпа, 30 — голень пальпы и парацимбиум, 31, 32 — голень пальпы, 33–37 — lamella characteristica (37 — вид снизу!), 38, 39 — эмболюсный отдел (вид снизу и сверху, соответственно).

Nenetsky Autonomous Region, 30 km E of Tobseda (68°20′N, 51°30′E), 4 km S of Lake Pestchanka-To, tundra, VII.1984, leg. A. Tanasevitch (**a new record!**); 1 ♂, 1 ♀ (ZMT), FINLAND, Utsjoki Kevo Jesnalvaara, low alpine heath, 1.VII–18.IX.1969, leg. S. Koponen.

TAXONOMIC REMARKS: Figs 11–26 show the variation range of the shapes of the lamella characteristica in *A. similis*. As one can see, the shape of this sclerite expectedly appears to vary over the vast geographical range of this North Palaearctic species (Map). As some variation concerns local populations of *A. similis* as well, erection of new taxa for populations from some of the sectors/parts of this species' range seems premature to totally unwarranted. More material is necessary to analyse to obtain a more detailed pattern.



Figs 40–47. Details of palp structure of *Agyneta insulana* sp.n. (Sakhalin, paratypes): 40–41 — embolic division (ventral and dorsal views, respectively), 42–44 — lamella characteristica, 45 — palpal tibia & paracymbium, 46, 47 — palpal tibia (dorsal view).

Рис. 40–47. Строение пальпы *Agyneta insulana* sp.n. (Сахалин, паратипы): 40–41 — эмболюсный отдел (вид снизу и сверху, соответственно), 42–44 — lamella characteristica, 45 — голень пальпы и парацимбиум, 46, 47 — голень пальпы (вид сверху).

DISTRIBUTION: Kamchatka, northern Siberia, North Urals, northern Russian Plain (Bolshezemelskaya and Malozemelskaya tundras), North Fennoscandia, Iceland (cf. Map).

Agyneta insulana **sp.n.**

Figs 29–47.

1992a *Agyneta similis* — Eskov: 53 (examined in part).

1993 *Agyneta similis* — Marusik, Eskov, Logunov & Basarukin: 75 (examined in part).

NAME: A Latin adjective referring to provenance from islands.

Holotype ♂ (ZMMU), RUSSIA, Kurile Islands, Iturup Island, Kurilsk, 20–24.VI.1989, leg. A. Basarukin (from KEC, as *Meioneta similis*).

Paratypes: 3♂♂, Sakhalin, Naiba River, 10 km upstream off Bykov, meadow, 15–25.VIII.1991, leg. K. Eskov (from KEC, as *Meioneta similis*).

DESCRIPTION: Male (female unknown). Total length 1.75. Carapace 0.83 long, 0.58 wide, brown with darker margins. Chelicerae 0.38 long. Legs pale brown. Leg I 3.14 long (0.83+0.23+0.80+0.75+0.53), IV 2.97 long (0.83+0.23+0.73+0.73+0.45). Chaetotaxy: 2-2-2-2. Metatarsi I–III each with a trichobothrium. TmI 0.20. Palp as in Figs 29–47. Abdomen 0.93 long, 0.53 wide, grey.

TAXONOMIC REMARKS: The new species is very closely related to *A. similis* but is well distinguishable by the presence both of a "hump" and a depression at the upper margin of the lamella characteristica, as well as by the ridge on the inner side of the lamella characteristica narrower than in *A. saaristoi* sp.n. (cf. 37, 40 & 63, 64, 66–68).

DISTRIBUTION: The new species was erroneously identification as *Agyneta similis* by previous authors from Kurile Islands: Iturup Isl. and probably Paramushir Isl. [Eskov, 1992], as well as from Sakhalin: Bykov Distr. and probably Okha Distr. [Marusik, Eskov, Logunov & Basarukin, 1993] (cf. Map).

Agyneta saaristoi **sp.n.**

Figs 48–68.

1985 *Meioneta similis* — Heimer: 144.

1992b *Agyneta similis* — Eskov: 75 (examined).

1994 *Agyneta similis* — Eskov & Marusik: 69 (examined).

1995 *Agyneta similis* — Eskov & Marusik: 71 (examined).

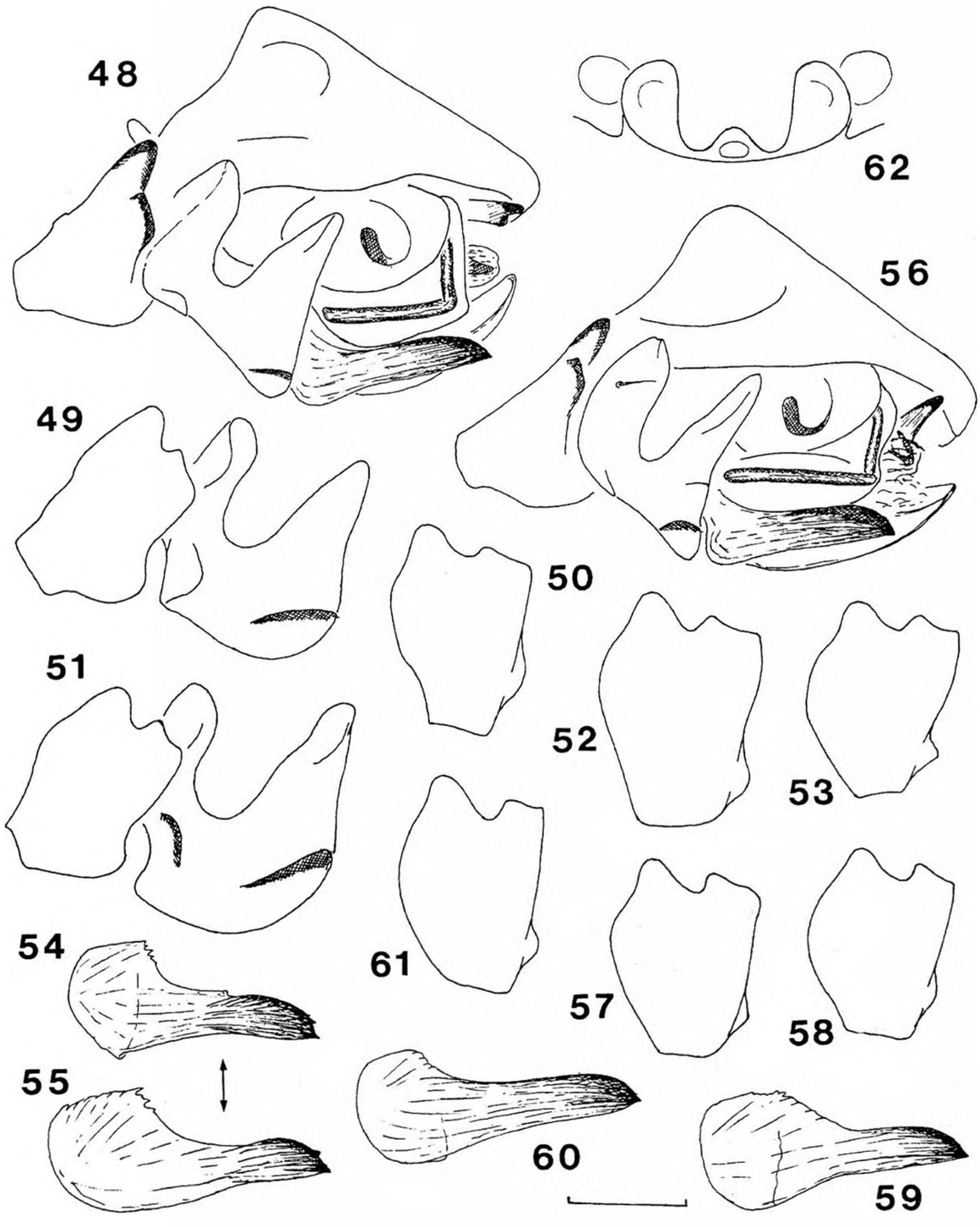
1996 *Agyneta similis* — Marusik, Hippa & Koponen: 32 (examined).

1996 *Agyneta* (*Meioneta*) *similis* — Esyunin & Efimik: the records from Orenburg Area, Bashkiria, Perm Area, Sverdlovsk Area, and Chelyabinsk Area (all examined).

NAME: The species honours Dr. Michael I. Saaristo, a well-known Finnish arachnologist.

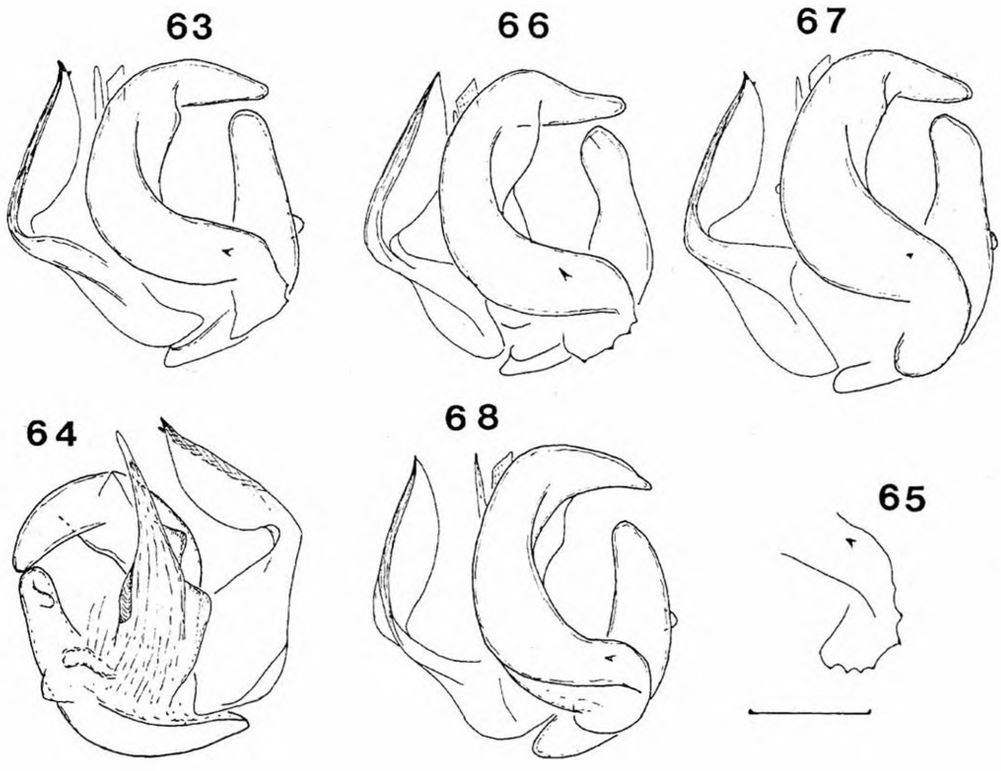
Holotype ♂ (ZMMU), RUSSIA, Altai Mts., Lake Teletskoye, Altaisky Nature Reserve, near Lake Chiri, upper timberline of *Picea obovata* & *Pinus sibirica*, litter, moss, 1700–1750 m a.s.l., 29.VII.–1.VIII.1997, leg. S. Golovatch & A. Tanasevitch.

Paratypes: 1 ♂ (ZMT), RUSSIA, WEST SIBERIA: SW Altai, Bertkum, moss, bog, lichen, 1.VII.1983, leg. H. Hippa; 1 ♂ (ZMN), Novosibirsk Area, Toguchino Distr., Mirnyi, *Abies-*



Figs 48–62. Genitalia of *Agyneta saaristoi* sp.n.: 48, 56 — right palp, 49,51 — palpal tibia & paracymbium, 50, 52, 53, 57, 58, 61 — palpal tibia (dorsal view) 54, 55, 59, 60 — lamella characteristica, 62 — epigyne; 48–50 — Altai, Bertkum, 51–55 — Altai, Teletskoye, holotype, 56–59 — East Kazakhstan, 61–62 — Orenburg, 60 — Novosibirsk Area, Toguchino.

Рис. 48–62. Гениталии *Agyneta saaristoi* sp.n.: 48, 56 — правая пальпа, 49, 51 — голень пальпы и парацимбиум, 50, 52, 53, 57, 58, 61 — голень пальпы (вид сверху), 54, 55, 59, 60 — lamella characteristica, 62 — эпигина; 48–50 — Алтай, Берткун, 51–55 — Алтай, оз. Телецкое, голотип, 56–59 — Восточный Казахстан, 61–62 — Оренбург, 60 — Новосибирская обл., Тогучино.



Figs 63–68. Embolic division (63, 64, 66–68) & base of embolus (65) of *Agyneta saaristoi* sp.n.: 63–65 — Altai, Lake Teletskoye, holotype, 66 — East Kazakhstan, 67 — Novosibirsk Area, Toguchino, 68 — Orenburg; 63, 66–68 — ventral view, 64 — dorsal view.

Рис. 63–68. Эмболюсный отдел (63, 64, 66–68) & основание эмболюса (65) *Agyneta saaristoi* sp.n.: 63–65 — Алтай, оз Телецкое, голотип, 66 — Восточный Казахстан, 67 — Новосибирская обл., Тогучино, 68 — Оренбург; 63, 66–68 — вид снизу, 64 — вид сверху.

Populus forest, VIII.1984, leg. V. Bakurov (from KEC, as *Meioneta similis*); 1 ♂ (ZMMU), KAZAKHSTAN: East Kazakhstan Area, near Zaisan Mt., Djaminei River Valley, 17.VII.1989, leg. S. Ovtchinnikov (from KEC, as *Meioneta similis*); 1 ♂ (ATC), Kazakhstan, Kzyl-Orda Area, 35 km NE of Yanykurgan, Karatau Mt. Ridge, 15.VI.1989, leg. A. Zyuzin; 2 ♂, 2 ♀♀ (ATC), Samara Area, environs of Neftegorsk, *Artemisia* steppe, 5.X.199, leg. A. Tanasevitch; 1 ♂ (PU, № 297, as *Agyneta ressli*), EUROPEAN RUSSIA AND URALS: Voronezh Area, environs of Voronezh, millet field, 16.VII.1947, G. Bodrenkov; 1 ♂ (PU, № 178 as *Agyneta similis*), Orenburg Area, Buzuluk Distr., Buzuluk Forest, river valley, in grass, 20.VIII.1986, leg. S. Kuznetsov; 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀ (PU, № 176 as *Agyneta similis*), Orenburg Area, environs of Orenburg, Sulak, *Pinus* forest, litter, 10.VIII.1985, leg. S. Kuznetsov; 3 ♂♂, 5♀♀ (PU, № 175 as *Agyneta similis*), Orenburg Area, Kuvandyk Distr., Aituar, stony steppe, in grass, 22.V.1997, leg. S. Esyunin; 3 ♂♂, 6 ♀♀ (PU, № 180 as *Agyneta similis*), Bashkiria, Burzian Distr., Shulgan-Tash Nature Reserve, near Shulganovo, *Quercus* wood, 2.VII.1985, leg. Danilova; 4 ♂♂, 1 ♀ (PU, № 300 as *Agyneta similis*), Perm Area, Kungur Distr., Spasskaya Gora Nature Reserve, steppe, litter, 19.IX.1987, leg. S. Esyunin; 1 ♂ (PU, № 301 as *Agyneta similis*), Sverdlovsk Area, Krasnoufimsk Distr., neither exact locality nor date, nor collector; 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀ (PU, № 179 as *Agyneta similis*), Chelyabinsk Area, Ilmensky Nature Reserve, dry meadow, 7.VI.1991, leg. Pichyugina; 15 ♂♂, 23 ♀♀ (PU, № 174 as *Agyneta similis*), Chelyabinsk Area, Troitsk Distr., Troitsky Nature Reserve, different habitats: steppe, *Betula* forest, swamp, bank of river, salt-marsh, 11.VI.1984, VII.1989, VI.1994, V.1994; 1 ♂, 1 ♀ (PU № 301 as *Agyneta similis*), Chelyabinsk Area, South Urals, Malyi Iremel Mt., tundra, in grass, 27.V.1982, leg. V. Olshvang; 2 ♂♂ (PU, № 301), same locality, meadow, in grass, 23.VII.1986, leg. A. Polyanin; 2 ♂♂, 1 ♀ (PU, № 301), Bolshoi Iremel Mt., tundra, in grass, 27.V.1982, leg. A. Polyanin.

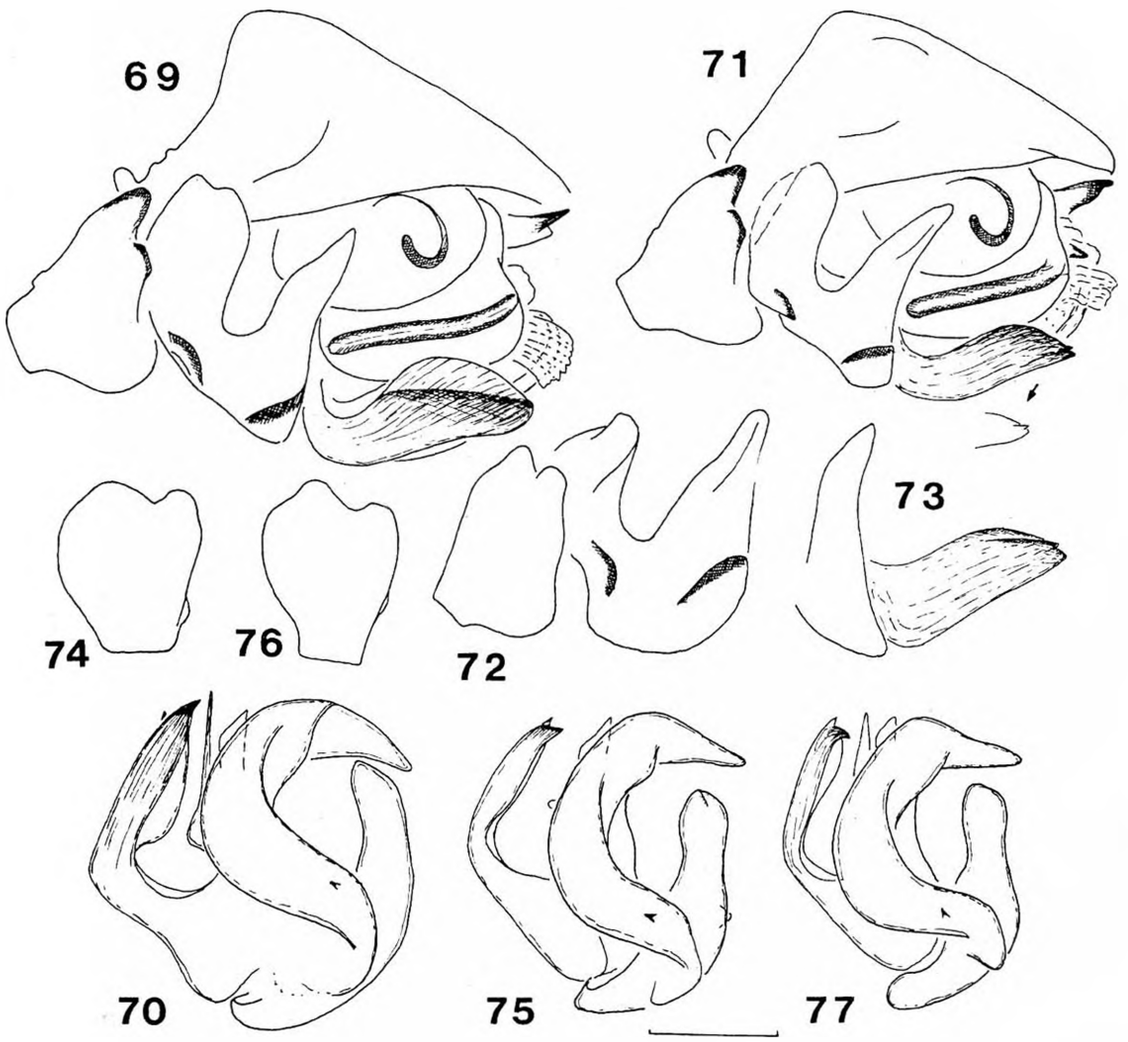
DESCRIPTION: Male. Total length 1.68. Carapace 0.78 long, 0.63 wide, pale greyish-brown. Chelicerae 0.35 long. Legs yellow. Leg I 2.87 long (0.73+0.23+0.73+0.68+0.50), IV 2.71 long (0.75+0.20+0.68+0.65+0.43). Chaetotaxy: 2-2-2-2. Metatarsi I–III each with a trichobothrium. Tml 0.30. Palp as in Figs 48–61, 63–68. Abdomen 0.88 long, 0.50 wide, grey.

Female. Total length 2.0. Carapace 0.88 long, 0.53 wide, pale greyish-brown. Chelicerae 0.30 long. Legs yellow. Leg I 3.13 long (0.85+0.25+0.75+0.75+0.53), IV 2.99 long (0.85+0.23+0.75+0.73+0.43). Chaetotaxy: 2-2-2-2. Metatarsi I–III each with a trichobothrium. Tml 0.23. Abdomen 1.18 long, 0.78 wide, grey. Epigyne as in Fig 62.

TAXONOMIC REMARKS: The new species is closely related to the North Palaearctic *A. similis* but it can be easily discriminated by the presence of a wide ridge on the inner side of the lamella characteristica, as well as by its non-bifid apex.

DISTRIBUTION: This species was earlier recorded as *A. similis* from Saur Mt. Range, Kazakhstan as well as from Krasnoyarsk Area, Sayano-Shushensky Reserve [Eskov, 1992, Eskov, Marusik, 1995], Novosibirsk Area, Toguchino Distr. [Eskov, Marusik, 1994], Altai Mts. [Marusik, Hippa & Koponen, 1996]; as *A. similis* (part) and *A. ressli* (part)[1] from the

[1] *Agyneta ressli* (Wunderlich, 1973) in the collection of PU № 299 (2 ♂♂, Ukraine, environments of Berdyansk, under shrubs, 18.XII.1937, leg. V. Nikolaev) is indeed *Agyneta rurestris* (C.L.Koch, 1836), examined.



Figs 69–77. Details of palp structure of *Agyneta ressli* (Wunderlich, 1973) (69, 70, Austria, Gaming, paratype) & *Agyneta mesasiatica* sp.n. (71–77): 69, 71 — right palp, 72 — palpal tibia & paracymbium, 73 — lamella characteristica, 74, 76 — palpal tibia (dorsal view), 70, 75, 77 — embolic division (ventral view); 71–75 — Talysh Mts, Zuvand, holotype, 76, 77 — Baku.

Рис. 69–77. Строение пальпы *Agyneta ressli* (Wunderlich, 1973) (69, 70, Австрия, Gaming, паратип) & *Agyneta mesasiatica* sp.n. (71–77): 69, 71 — правая пальпа, 72 — голень пальпы и парацимбиум, 73 — lamella characteristica, 74,76 — голень пальпы (вид сверху), 70, 75, 77 — эмболюсный отдел (вид снизу); 71–75 — Талышские горы, Зуванд, голотип, 76, 77 — Баку.

Middle and South Urals [Esyunin, Efimik, 1996, see above]. It seems quite probable that the record by Heimer [1985] of *A. similis* in Mongolia is referred in fact to *A. saaristoi* sp.n. (cf. Map).

Agyneta mesasiatica **sp.n.**
Figs 71–77, 90–99.

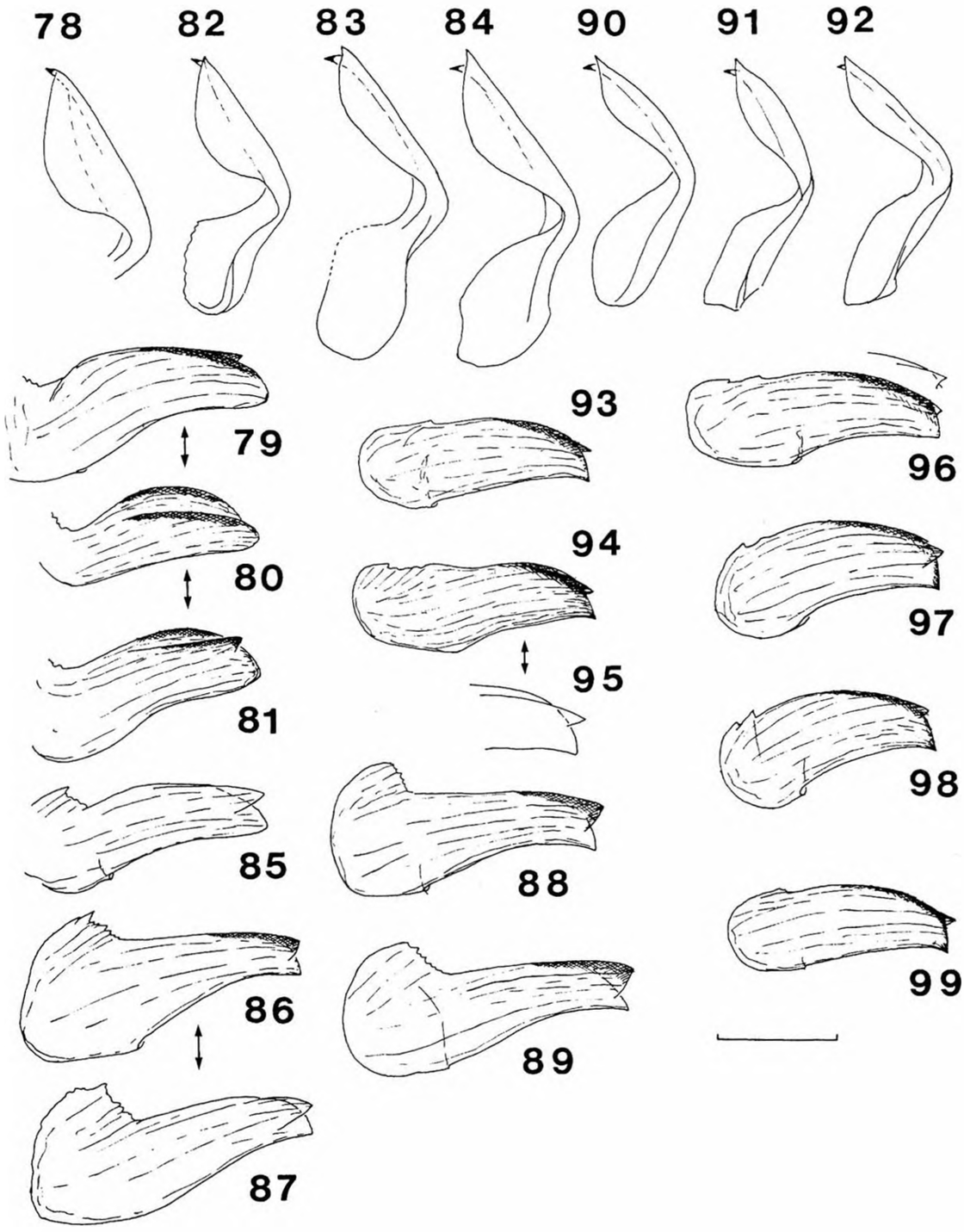
1984 *Meioneta mollis* — Dunin: 54 (examined).
1986 *Agyneta ressli* — Tanasevitch & Fet: 40 (examined).
1987 *Agyneta ressli* — Tanasevitch: 91 (examined).
1989 *Agyneta* (*Meioneta*) *ressli* — Tanasevitch: 91(examined).
1990 *Agyneta ressli* — Tanasevitch: 9 (examined).

NAME: The specific name refers to Middle Asia, the terra typica of the new species.

Holotype ♂ (ZMMU), AZERBAIJAN, Caucasus Mts., Talysh Mts., Lerik Distr., Zuvand, Amburdara near Gosmalian, *Populus* & *Salix* along stream, litter, under stones, 10.X.1983, leg. S. Golovatch.

Paratypes: 1♂ (ZMMU), together with holotype; 1♂ (ATC), AZERBAIJAN, Baku, Musabekov, 24.VI.1976, leg. P. Dunin; 1♂ (ATC), Lenkoran, near Dashdatuk, bottomland of Bashary River, under stones, 28.VI.1983, leg. D. Logunov; 1♂ (ATC), RUSSIA, North Osetia, Ardon River Basin, left slope of Alagirskoye Valley, 1200 m, mountain steppe, 15.X.–9.XI.1985, leg. S. Alexeev; 2♂ (ATC), TURKMENISTAN, W-Kopetdagh Mts, Eldere Valley, 1.VI.1982, leg. B. Zakharov.

DESCRIPTION: Male (female unknown). Total length 1.60. Carapace 1.68 long, 0.55 wide, pale brown. Chelicerae 0.28 long. Legs yellow. Leg I 2.37 long (0.63+0.18+0.58+0.55+0.43), IV 2.35 long (0.63+0.18+0.58+0.58+0.38). Chaetotaxy: 2-2-2-2. Metatarsi I–III each with a trichobothrium.



Figs 78–99. Lamella characteristica of *Agyneta ressli* (Wunderlich, 1973) (78–81 — paratype from Austria, Gaming), *Agyneta alpica* sp.n. (82–89), *Agyneta mesasiatica* sp.n. (90–99); 82,85 — Austria, Lunz, 83, 86, 87 — Austria, Seegrube, 84, 88, 89 — Switzerland, Hospendal, holotype, 90, 93–95 — Talysh Mts., Zuvand, holotype, 91, 99 — Baku, 96 — Caucasus, N.Osetia, 92, 97, 98 — Kopetdagh Mts., Eldere; 78, 82–84, 90–92 — dorsal view.

Рис. 78–99. Lamella characteristica *Agyneta ressli* (Wunderlich, 1973) (78–81 — Австрия, Gaming, паратип), *Agyneta alpica* sp.n. (82–89), *Agyneta mesasiatica* sp.n. (90–99); 82, 85 — Австрия, Lunz, 83, 86, 87 — Австрия, Seegrube, 84, 88, 89 — Швейцария, Hospendal, голотип, 90, 93–95 — Талышские горы, Зуванд, голотип, 91, 99 — Баку, 96 — Кавказ, Северная Осетия, 92, 97, 98 — горы Копетдаг, Элдере; 78, 82–84, 90–92 — вид сверху.

TmI 0.25. Palp as in Figs 71–77, 90–99. Abdomen 1.00 long, 0.58 wide, pale grey.

TAXONOMIC REMARKS: The new species is extremely closely related to *A. ressli* but distinguishable by the narrowed ridge on the inner side of the lamella characteristica, as well as by the position of the tooth in upper part of the lamella characteristica, which is closer to the apex (cf. Figs 78–81 & 90–99).

Comparative material of *Agyneta ressli* studied: ♂ holotype (SMF № 28790/1), 1 ♂ & 1 ♀ paratypes (SMF № 28791/3), AUSTRIA, Gaming, Nordhang d. Ötscher; 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀ paratypes (JWC), Lunz, Dürrenstein, Gipfel (1900 m ü NN), VI–VIII, H. Malicky leg.

DISTRIBUTION: This species has repeatedly been mentioned under different names from the Caucasus: North Osetiya (Russia), Azerbaijan [Dunin, 1984 as *Meioneta mollis* & *M. rurestris*, Tanasevitch, 1987, 1990 as *Agyneta ressli*], and from the Kopetdagh Mts., Turkmenistan [Tanasevitch & Fet, 1986; Tanasevitch 1989 as *Agyneta ressli*] (s. Map).

Agyneta ressli (Wunderlich, 1973)
Figs 78–81.

1973 *Meioneta* (*Meioneta*) *ressli* Wunderlich: 414, figs 21–30 (holotype & paratypes, examined).

(?)1982 *Meioneta ressli* — Helsdingen: 158, figs 1–4 (indeterminable).

(?)1991 *Meioneta ressli* — Heimer, Nentwig: 212, fig. 571 (indeterminable).

Originally described from the Alps, this species has since been recorded erroneously in the Caucasus [Dunin, 1984, Tanasevitch, 1987, 1990], as well as in Kopetdagh Mts., Middle Asia [Tanasevitch & Fet, 1986, Tanasevitch, 1989], being referred in fact to *Agyneta mesasiatica* sp.n. (see above). The records of *A. ressli* in the Urals actually belong either to *A saaristoi* or *A. rurestris* (see above). Tube № 298 in the PU collection, labeled "*Agyneta ressli*: Ukraine, env. of Berdyansk, under bushes, 18.XII.1937, leg. V. Nikolaev", indeed contains two ♂♂ of *Agyneta rurestris*, examined.

Hence, the true *A. ressli* (cf. Map) has never been recorded in Russia and must be ejected from the Russian fauna.

TAXONOMIC REMARKS: According to the shape of the lamella characteristica, *A. ressli* seems to be more closely related to the Caucasian-Middle Asian *A. mesasiatica* than to the sympatric Alpine *A. alpica* sp.n.

Material studied: *Agyneta ressli*: ♂ holotype (SMF № 28790/1), 1 ♂ & 1 ♀ paratypes (SMF № 28791/3), AUSTRIA, Gaming, Nordhang d. Ötscher; 1 ♂, 2 ♀♀ paratypes (JWC), Lunz, Dürrenstein, Gipfel (1900 m ü NN), VI–VIII, H. Malicky leg.

Agyneta alpica **sp.n.**
Figs 82–89.

(?)1982 *Meioneta ressli* — Helsdingen: 158, figs 1–4 (indeterminable).

(?)1991 *Meioneta ressli* — Heimer, Nentwig: 212, fig. 571 (indeterminable).

1997 *Meioneta ressli* — Thaler, Buchar & Kůrka: 391, 392, figs: 5, 6, 8, 11.

1998 *Agyneta ressli* — Saaristo & Koponen: 571, figs D, E.

REMARKS: My restudy of the type material of *A. ressli* (SMF № 28790/1 & 28791/3) has revealed that both holotype and ♂ paratype from Gaming, Nordhang des Ötscher (Niederösterreich) are indeed the same species, whereas the ♂ paratype from Lunz, Dürrenstein (JWC) is in fact a different form conspecific with material referred to as *A. ressli* and figured by Thaler et al. [1997] and Saaristo & Koponen [1998]. This new species is described below.

NAME: The specific name refers to the Alps, the terra typica.

Holotype ♂ (ZMT), AM 623 (as *Meioneta similis*), SWITZERLAND, Uri, Hospendal under stones by a mountain brook, 09.VI.1968, leg. P. Lehtinen.

Paratypes: 1 ♂ (ZMT), AM 622 (as *Meioneta similis*), AUSTRIA, Tirol, Seegrube-W, 1900 m, 03.VI.1968, leg. P. Lehtinen; 1 ♂ (JWC), AUSTRIA, Lunz, Dürrenstein, Gipfel (1900 m ü NN), Barberfallen, VI–VIII, H. Malicky leg.; 2 ♂♂ (KTC), AUSTRIA, Carinthia, 1978, leg. Glockner.

DESCRIPTION: Male (female unknown). Total length 1.80. Carapace 0.88 long, 0.65 wide, reddish-brown. Chelicerae 0.43 long. Legs yellow. Leg I 2.91 long (0.75+0.23+0.75+0.65+0.53), IV 2.86 long (0.78+0.20+0.70+0.73+0.45). Chaetotaxy: 2-2-2-2. Metatarsi I–III each with a trichobothrium. TmI 0.24. Palp as in Figs 82–89. Abdomen 0.93 long, 0.58 wide, grey.

TAXONOMIC REMARKS: The new species is very closely related to *A. ressli* but is well distinguishable by the narrowed lamella characteristica and larger of it upper lobes, almost equal to lower one.

Comparative material: *Agyneta ressli*: ♂ holotype (SMF № 28790/1), 1 ♂ & 1 ♀ paratypes (SMF 28791/3), Niederösterreich, Gaming, Nordhang des Ötscher, Nivalzone, 1500 m ü NN, aus Detritus gesiebt, leg. Rausch.

Notes on two little-known species

Agyneta rivariensis Tanasevitch, 1984
Figs 100–106.

1984 *Agyneta* (*Aprolagus*) *rivariensis* Tanasevitch: 48–49, fig. 2 (A–E).

REMARKS. This species was originally described by Tanasevitch [1984] from the Bolshezemelskaya Tundra, NE part of the Russian Plain, and the Polar Urals. Later, it has been recorded in northern Siberia up to Chukotka[2] [s. Eskov, 1994]. This species is closely related to the North American *A. simplex* (Emerton, 1926), recently redescribed by Saaristo & Koponen [1998]. As the differences between these species are not very clear seen from the original pictures of *A. rivariensis*, this species is newly illustrated here. The differences lie in shape of the palpal tibia (Figs 101, 102), apex of the lamella characteristica (Figs 104–105) and, especially, shape of the epigynal proscape [s. Saaristo, Tanasevitch, 1996] with parallel sides in *A. rivariensis* (Fig. 106) vs. narrowing distally in *A. simplex*.

Agyneta equestris (L. Koch, 1881), **comb.n.**
Figs 107–110.

1947 *Meioneta equestris* — Miller: tab. 9: fig. 13.

1971 *Meioneta equestris* — Miller: 251, figs 7, 8

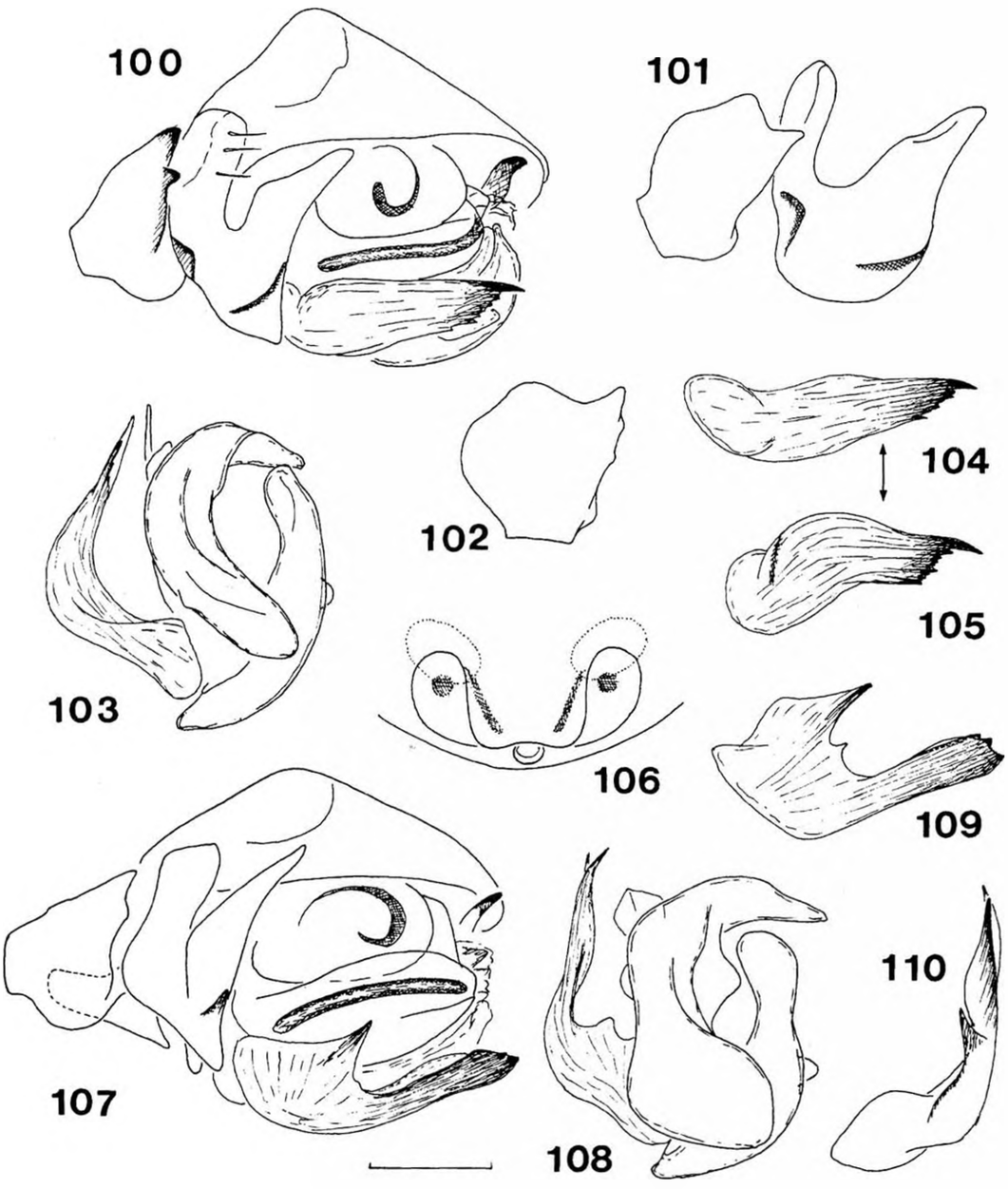
1979 *Meioneta equestris* — Miller, Weiss: tab. 2: figs 5–11.

1991 *Meioneta equestris* — Heimer, Nentwig: 211, fig. 569.

Material: 1 ♂ (ATC), UKRAINE, Dnepropetrovsk Area, Novomoskovsk Distr., environs of Andreevka, sandy terrace of Samara River, 5.VII.1974, leg. A. Zyuzin.

REMARKS: A species new to the Ukrainian fauna.

[2] This record requires confirmation.



Figs 100–110. Genitalia of *Agyneta ripariensis* Tanasevitch, 1984 (100–106, Polar Urals, paratypes) & *Agyneta equestris* (L. Koch, 1881) (107–110): 100, 107 — right palp, 101 — palpal tibia & paracymbium, 102 — palpal tibia (dorsal view), 103, 108 — embolic division (ventral view), 104, 105, 110 — lamella characteristica (110 — dorsal view!).

Рис. 100–110. Гениталии *Agyneta ripariensis* Tanasevitch, 1984 (100–106, Полярный Урал, паратип) & *Agyneta equestris* (L. Koch, 1881) (107–110): 100, 107 — правая пальпа, 101 — голень пальпы и парацимбиум, 102 — голень пальпы (вид сверху), 103, 108 — эмболюсный отдел (вид снизу), 104, 105, 110 — lamella characteristica (110 — вид сверху!).

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