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Corythalia canosa (Araneae: Salticidae) reassigned to *Anasaitis*

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Four species of *Corythalia* C.L.Koch 1851 were reported by Richman & Cutler (1978) to occur in North America north of Mexico. Subsequently, one of these four species, *C. delicatula* Gertsch & Mulaik 1936, was synonymized with *Euophrys diminuta* (Banks 1896) (Edwards 1980). Of the three remaining species, only two species can validly be placed in the genus. These are *C. conspecta* (Peckham & Peckham 1896) and *C. opima* (Peckham & Peckham 1885), the northernmost species in the genus, both with reported distributions ranging from Central America to Arizona.

Corythalia is a large genus of mostly neotropical species. It can be characterized as follows: body usually 4-7 mm in length; rather stout, black, with iridescent usually white spots and bands on carapace and palps, and white, yellow, orange, or red transverse bands on the abdominal dorsum; legs of males dark iridescent blue with both dorsal and ventral black erect fringes on any to all of legs I-IV (which legs have fringes varies with the species); embolus of palp a distal ventral flat spiral, making at least one complete turn; epigynum with two distinct oval atria with heavily sclerotized rims which are usually contiguous medially. While it contains many valid species, and probably on its own is one of the larger genera of jumping spiders, unfortunately *Corythalia* has become a dumping ground for poorly known related groups of euophryine salticids. The other species north of Mexico, *C. canosa* (Walckenaer 1837), falls into this category. This species occurs across the Gulf states from Florida to Texas, and as far north as South Carolina and Arkansas (Richman & Cutler 1978). Bryant (1940) reported it from Cuba.

Some of these related groups do have valid generic names. One such name is *Anasaitis*; Bryant (1950) described the genus and four species from Jamaica. Most (but not all) other species of Caribbean salticids presently placed in *Corythalia* appear to be *Anasaitis* as well. *Anasaitis* can be briefly characterized as follows: similar to *Corythalia* in size and color pattern, except spot and band colors iridescent (color range: pink-orange-yellow-green-blue-violet), and the transverse banding on the abdomen is connected medially and laterally by iridescence, resulting in four dark spots surrounded by iridescent, flattened, adpressed setae ("scales"); legs of males not noticeably blue or fringed; embolus a moderate spike bent basally and distally (apparent remnant of an extended spiral condition), subventral at distal end of tegulum; epigynum with atria poorly developed due to poor to absent development of rims.

Corythalia canosa fits the above diagnosis of *Anasaitis* quite well, except that only a small part of the iridescent color is obvious because most of the scales which form the color pattern are golden brown and not conspicuous. Its iridescent white scales can appear green-pink. It is clear from genitalic characters and color pattern that it belongs in *Anasaitis*. Therefore, I create *Anasaitis canosa* (Walckenaer 1837), **new combination**.

This transfer is made in order to clarify ongoing work revising the key to North American salticid genera (Richman, Cutler, & Edwards, in prep.), and will be followed by a review of *Anasaitis* (Edwards, in prep.). Along with a recent checklist of Caribbean Salticidae (Edwards & Wolff 1995), it also will serve as a prelude to more extensive revisionary work on the Caribbean jumping spiders.

References

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