



## A SURVEY OF LINYPHIID SPIDERS FROM XISHUANGBANNA, YUNNAN PROVINCE, CHINA (ARANEAE, LINYPHIIDAE)

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*Neriene circifolia* Zhao & Li, sp. n.

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The family Linyphiidae is the second most diverse group of spiders worldwide. It contains about 4500 described species and 590 genera. Linyphiids are easily diagnosed by their separate paracymbium, complex structure of copulative organs and sheet webs. These spiders are well studied in the Holarctic due to long period of investigation and numerous regional revisions. In contrast, they are but poorly treated in subtropical and tropical regions. Until now, only about 120 linyphiid species have been described or reported from Southeast Asia. Xishuangbanna tropical rain forest, located in southern Yunnan, is part of the SE Asian biodiversity hotspot. After almost a decade of intense collecting and sorting of spiders in this region, we identify eight new genera and 30 new species. The area now contains 48 species in total. A large number of canopy linyphiids have identical bodies and yet peculiar genitals. Accurate matching of the genders and determinations of species requires molecular analyses. We provide detailed descriptions and photographs of all of the new species. Further, we list with collection information the other 18 previously described species. Finally, we test for conspecificity of genders for perplexing pairs using DNA barcodes.

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