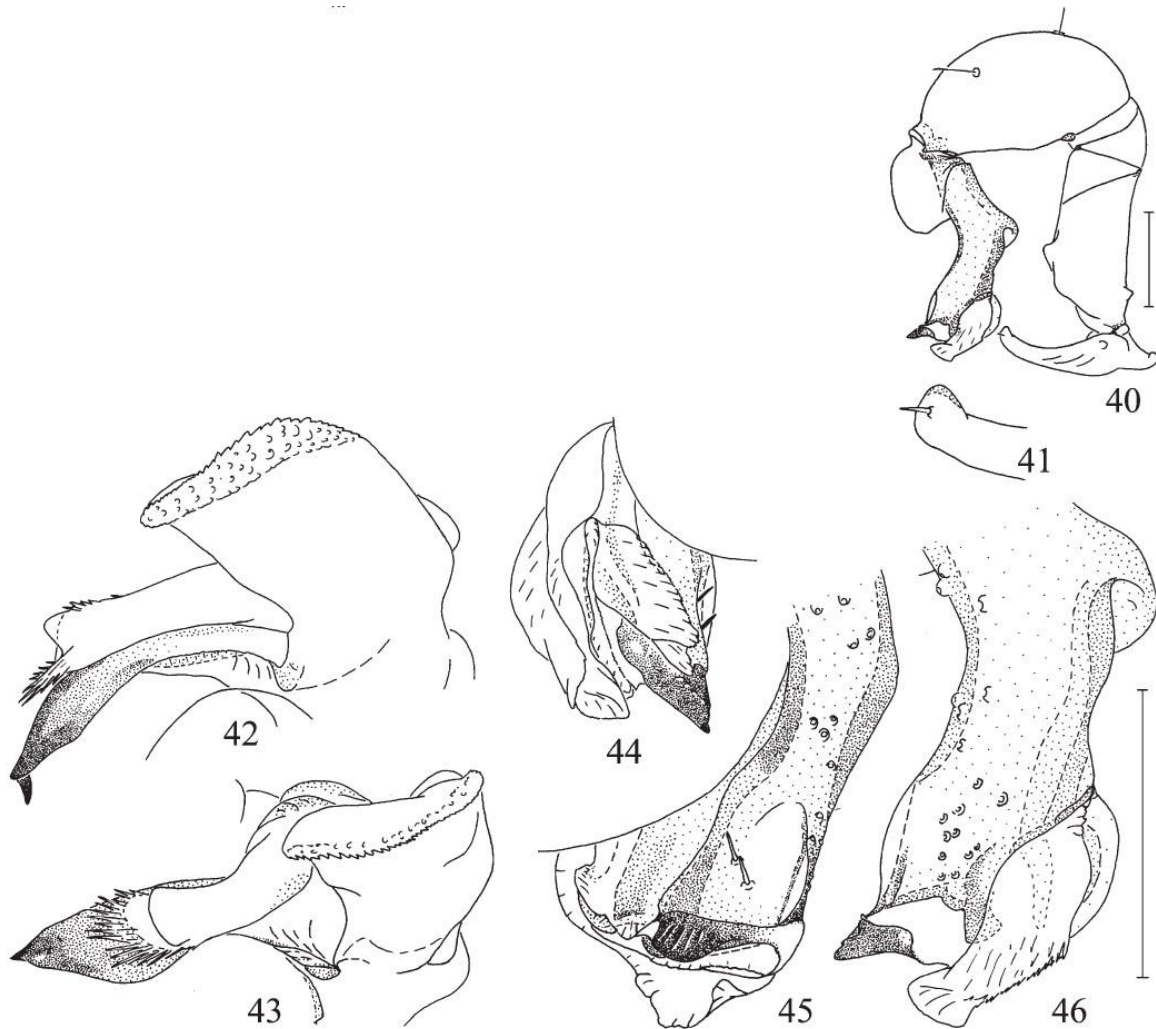


***Pholcus arsacius* Senglet, 2008**

Senglet, A. 2008. New species of *Pholcus* and *Spermophora* (Pholcidae, Araneae) from Iran and Afghanistan, with notes on mating mechanisms. *Rev. suisse Zool.* 115: 355-376.

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(40-46)

Pholcus arsacius sp. n., left male palp. (40) Entire palp, retrolateral view. (41) Tip of trochanter apophysis. (42) Bulbal apophyses, prolateral view. (43) Same, dorsal view. (44) Procurus, prolateral view. (45) Same, dorsal view. (46) Same, retrolateral view. Scale 0.5 mm.

Pholcus arsacius sp. n.

Figs 40-46, 55-56

MATERIAL EXAMINED: Holotype ♂, IRAN, Khorasan, Road to Amirabad, 1100 m, shelter cave, 36°47'N 59°54'E, 23/7/1974. – Paratypes, 6 ♂, 8 ♀, same locality as holotype. – Paratypes, 2 ♂, IRAN, Zavi, 36°52'N 59°53'E, 22/7/1974. All specimens were collected in caves.

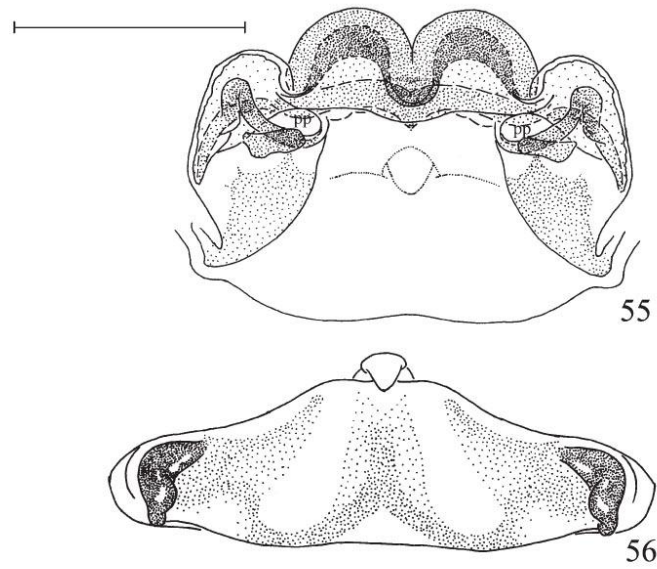
DESCRIPTION: Dorsal marking of prosoma bilobate, with a ragged posterior margin. Opisthosoma elongated.

Male (paratype from Amirabad): Total length 6.30. Prosoma 1.90 long, 1.90 wide. Eye sizes and interdistances: AME 0.10, PME 0.15; PME-PME 0.28, PME-ALE 0.02. Ocular group 0.78 wide. Chelicera bearing a strong basal anterior bump terminating in a retrolaterally-directed rounded apophysis, a large retrolateral basal apophysis and a prolateral-apical apophysis with three gripping teeth. Pedipalp (Figs 40-46): Trochanter apophysis elongated, with the tip strongly flexed retrolaterally. Procurus bent by 130° at its ventral elbow; dorsal apical margin of procurus extended into a strong striated apophysis; guiding groove along apical ventral part of procurus beginning at an almost hemispheric cupule at elbow level. Bulbal apophyses (Figs 42-43): Superior margin of elevated squared uncus bordered by numerous teeth; the usual basal protrusion being replaced by an expansion of uncus base. Bulbal appendix spindle-shaped, retrolateral margin forming a tooth near the tip.

Female (from Amirabad): Total length 5.60. Prosoma 1.46 long, 1.50 wide. Eye sizes and interdistances: AME 0.08, PME 0.15; PME-PME 0.20, PME-ALE 0.02. Ocular group 0.67 wide. Genital plate (Fig. 56) short and wide, with strongly sclerotized sinuous lateral ridges. Long tubercle apophysis originating behind genital plate at about 2/3 of its length. Vulva (Fig. 55): Dorsal sclerite elevated into two sclerotized anterior arches; ventral sclerite narrow. Small, widely separated pore-plates in an anterior position.

ETYMOLOGY: The species name, an adjective, is derived from Arsace, the name of the first Parthian king.

REMARKS: This species is close to *P. nenjukovi* (Spassky, 1936). Unfortunately I was not able to study that species, which was collected 1000 km away from the *P. arsacius* sp. n. localities. The genital plate is triangular in *P. nenjukovi* but short and wide in the new species.



(55-56) *Pholcus arscadius*
sp. n. (55) Vulva, dorsal view. (56) Genital plate. PP = pore-plate. Scale 0.5 mm.



FIG. 1636. Known distribution of the *Pholcus nenjukovi* species group. The question mark indicates the dubious type locality of *Ph. sidorenkoi* (see text).

[Diagnosis of *P. nenjukovi*]

Diagnosis. Distinguished from congeners by male palpal morphology (Figs. 1637, 1638; shapes of procurus, uncus, and appendix), and female genitalia (Figs. 1640, 1659); from the very similar *Ph. arsacius* Senglet (type specimens of *Ph. arsacius* examined) by smaller palp, slightly more slender trochanter apophysis, L-shaped appendix (in *Ph. arsacius* more gently curved), larger lateral cheliceral apophyses, and smaller and more triangular epigynal plate (much wider in *Ph. arsacius*, cf. fig. 56 in Senglet 2008).