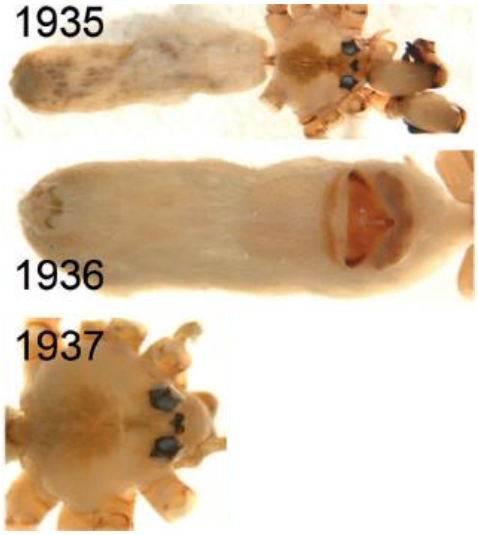
***Pholcus thakek* Huber, 2011**

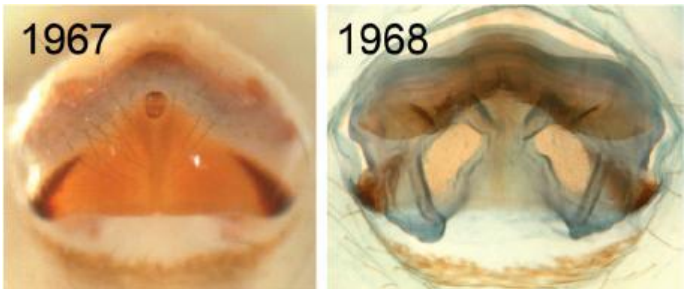
Huber, B. A. 2011. Revision and cladistic analysis of *Pholcus* and closely related taxa (Araneae, Pholcidae). Bonner zool. Monographien 58: 1-510.

p. 406



1935-1937. *Ph. thakek*, male, dorsal view; female abdomen, ventral view; female prosoma, dorsal view.

p. 407



1967, 1968. *Ph. thakek*.

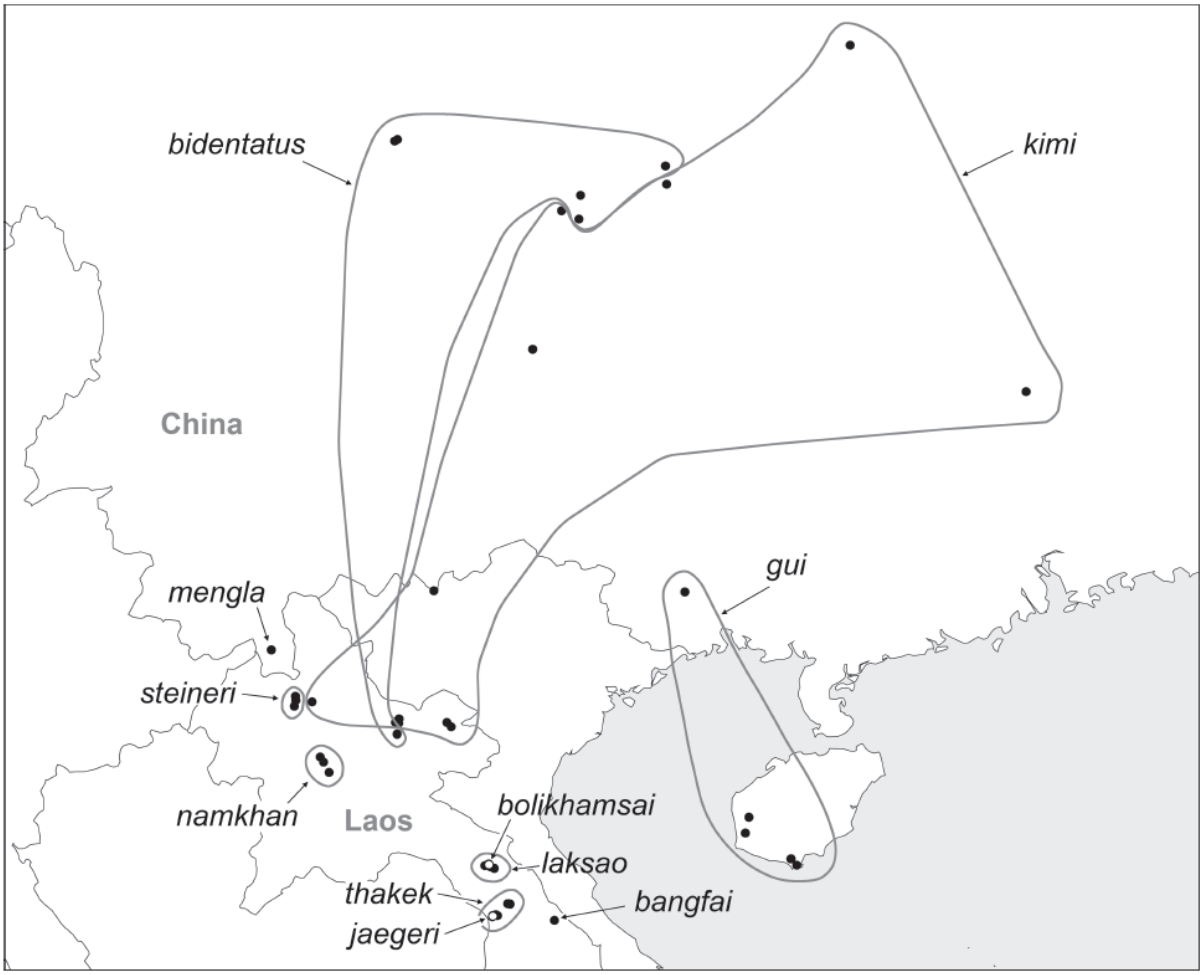


FIG. 2027. Known distribution of the *Pholcus bidentatus* species group.

Pholcus thakek n. sp.

Figs. 1935-1937, 1967, 1968, 2050-2057

Type. Male holotype from Laos, Khammouan Prov., Thakek area (17°26.7'N, 104°56.9'E), in Tham En karst cave, near entrance, ~180 m a.s.l., 28.ii.2003 (P. Jäger), in SMF.

Etymology. The specific name is a noun in apposition, derived from the type locality.

Diagnosis. Distinguished from congeners by male palpal morphology (Figs. 2050, 2051; procursus distal elements and dorsal process, uncus shape) and female genitalia (Figs. 1967, 2057; shapes of epigynum and internal structures).

Male (holotype). Total body length 5.1, carapace width 1.5. Leg 1: 12.2 + 0.7 + 12.4, metatarsus and tarsus missing, tibia 2 missing, tibia 3: 3.8, tibia 4: 5.4; tibia 1 L/d: 85. Habitus as in Fig. 1935. Carapace pale ochre-yellow with large light brown median mark including ocular area, clypeus not darkened, sternum whitish, margins narrowly dark brown, posterior third light brown, legs ochre-yellow, tips of femora and tibiae lighter, indistinct darker rings on femora and tibiae subdistally, in patella area, and on metatarsi proximally, abdomen ochre-gray with some darker spots dorsally, without ventral pattern (cf. female, Fig. 1936). Distance PME-PME 325 µm, diameter PME 170 µm, distance PME-ALE 45 µm, distance AME-AME 35 µm, diameter AME 70. Ocular area elevated, each triad on additional short elevation, many stronger hairs posteriorly. No thoracic furrow (only dark line anteriorly); clypeus unmodified. Chelicerae as in Fig. 2052, distal frontal apophyses without modified hairs (or tiny hairs that are barely visible in dissecting microscope), light proximal lateral apophyses and indistinct proximal frontal humps. Sternum wider than long (0.95/0.80), unmodified. Palps as in Figs. 2050 and 2051, coxa unmodified, trochanter with short straight retrolatero-ventral apophysis, femur with indistinct retrolatero-dorsal hump proximally and larger ventral protuberance, procursus with two spines on distinctive dorsal process, distally complex (Fig. 2053), bulb with large uncus, weakly sclerotized embolus, flat appendix with retrolateral pointed projection. Legs without spines and curved hairs, few vertical hairs (many hairs missing); retrolateral trichobothrium on tibia 1 at 5%; prolateral trichobothrium absent on tibia 1, seen on tibiae 3 and 4.

Variation. In the other three males, the procursus differs slightly (distal elements, Figs. 2054, 2055); they are therefore assigned tentatively. Tibia 1: 11.7 (missing in other males).

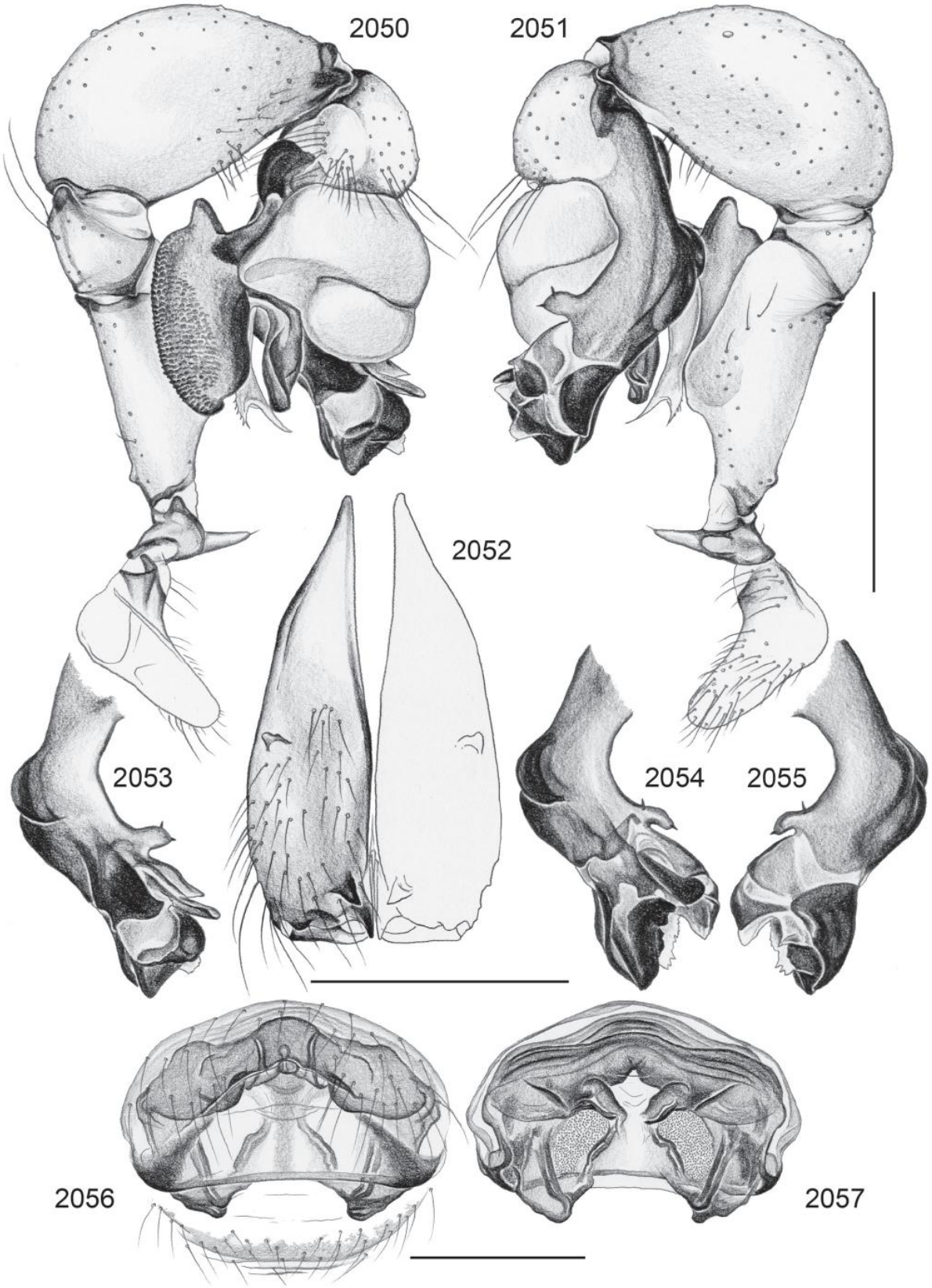


FIG. 2050-2057. *Pholcus thakek*, specimens from Tham En karst cave (2050-2053), Tham Deua karst cave (2054, 2055) and Ban Kouanphavang (2056, 2057). 2050, 2051. Left male palp, prolateral and retrolateral views. 2052. Male chelicerae, frontal view. 2053. Left procursus, prolateral view. 2054, 2055. Left procursus, prolateral and retrolateral views. 2056, 2057. Cleared female genitalia, ventral and dorsal views. Scale lines: 1.0 (2050, 2051, 2053-2055), 0.5 (2052, 2056, 2057).

Female. In general similar to male but triads closer together (distance PME-PME 160 µm), less elevated, pattern on sternum sometimes not limited to posterior part, median mark on carapace variable, abdomen pattern variably distinct. Tibia 1 in 4 females: 8.7, 9.1, 9.3, 9.7. Epigynum with triangular sclerite with anterior 'knob', internal arc visible through cuticle anteriorly (Figs. 1967, 2056); internal genitalia as in Figs. 1968 and 2057.

Distribution. Known from Khammouan Prov., Laos, only (Fig. 2027).

Material examined. LAOS: *Khammouan Prov.*: Thakek area, Tham En karst cave: ♂ holotype above.

Assigned tentatively: LAOS: *Khammouan Prov.*: Thakek area, Ban Kouanphavang 2 (17°27.4'N, 104°55.4'E), ~180 m a.s.l., cave and surroundings, by hand, sweep net, 29.x.2004 (P. Jäger, V. Vedel), 1♂1♀ in SMF; Ban Kouanphavang 1 (17°27.2'N, 104°56.3'E), ~180 m a.s.l., entrance and outside cave, vegetation, rocks, at night, by hand, 6.xi.2009 (P. Jäger, S. Bayer), 1♂ in SMF; Thakek area, 9.5 km NE Thakek (17°26.9'N, 104°52.5'E), ~180 m a.s.l., footcave, 28.ii.2003 (P. Jäger), 1♀ in SMF; 4.6 km WNW Ban Tathot, entrance to Tham Deua karst cave (17°38.1'N, 105°06.3'E), ~200 m a.s.l., 21. ii.2003 (P. Jäger), 1♂ (very pale) in SMF; Ban Tathot, caves near village, entrance area (17°37.5'N, 105°08.8'E), ~180 m a.s.l., 23.ii.2003 (P. Jäger), 1♀ in SMF; Ban Tathot, village and surroundings (17°37.5'N, 105°08.8'E), ~180 m a.s.l., rocks, bushes, 23.ii.2003 (P. Jäger), 1♀ in SMF; 2.5 km WNW Ban Tathot, Tham Kamouk karst cave (17°37.9'-38.0'N, 105°07.2'-07.5'E), ~200 m a.s.l., 19.ii.2003 (P. Jäger), 1♀ in SMF; same data but 19./20.ii.2003 (H. Steiner), 2♀ (2 vials) in SMF.