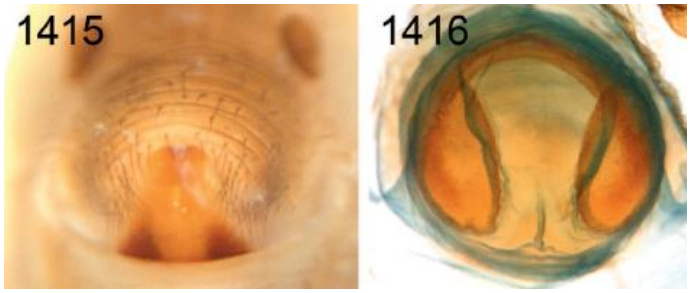
Pholcus varirata Huber, 2011

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

p. 281

1386, 1390-1392.
Ph. varirata, male ocular area; male, dorsal and lateral views; female abdomen, ventral view.

p. 282



1415, 1416. *Ph. varirata*.

p. 305

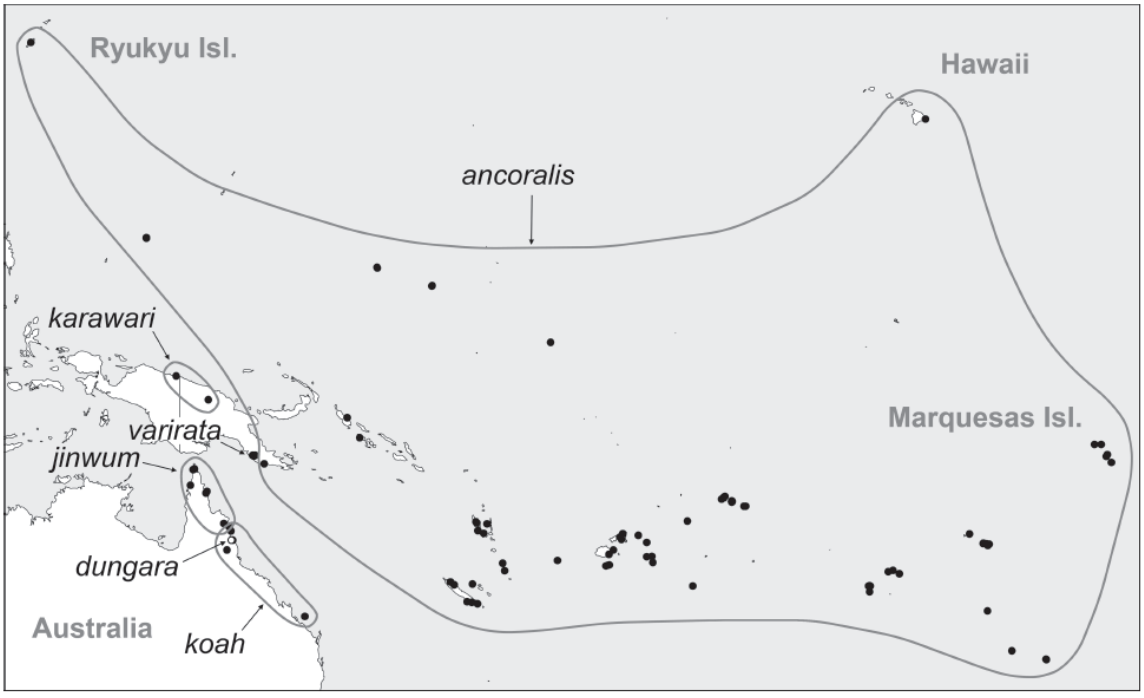


FIG. 1486. Known distribution of the *Pholcus ancoralis* species group.

Pholcus varirata n. sp.

Figs. 1386, 1390-1392, 1415, 1416, 1502, 1503

Type. Male holotype from Papua New Guinea, Central Province, Varirata National Park [-9°26'S, 147°21'E], 23.vi.1985 (D.J. Court), in RMNH.
Etymology. The specific name is a noun in apposition, derived from the type locality.

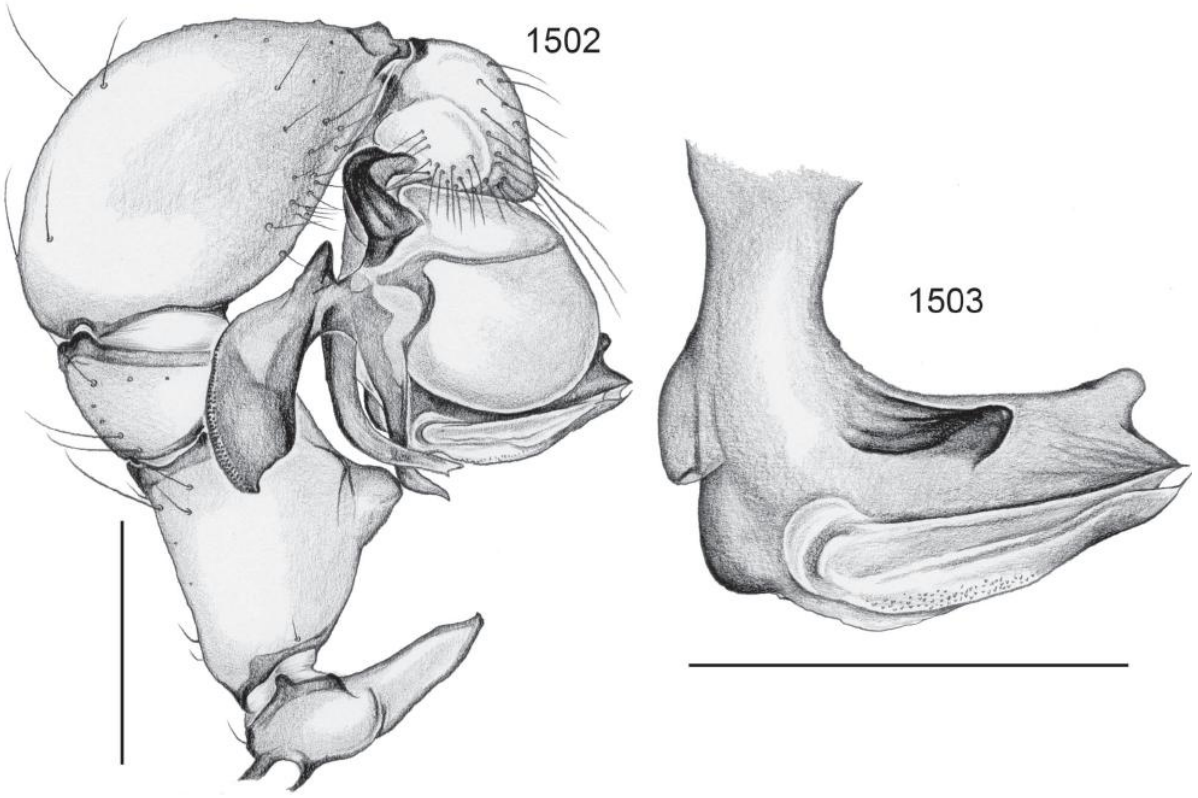


FIG. 1502, 1503. *Pholcus varirata*, left male palp and left procursus, prolateral views. Scale lines: 0.5.

Diagnosis. Easily distinguished from most congeners by distinctive pair of horns between male eye triads (Fig. 1386) and strongly bent procursus (Fig. 1503); from similar species (*Ph. ancoralis*, *Ph. karawari*) by details of male palp morphology (trochanter apophysis, femur shape, procursus and bulbal apophyses); from *Ph. karawari* also by female genitalia (Figs. 1415, 1416; shape and position of pore plates; very similar *Ph. ancoralis*).

Male (holotype). Total body length 7.3, carapace width 1.4. Leg 1: 53.3 (12.9 + 0.7 + 13.1 + 23.9 + 2.7), tibia 2: 8.5, tibiae 3: 5.3, tibia 4: 7.6; tibia 1 L/d: 96. Habitus as in Figs. 1390 and 1391. Carapace ochre-yellow with distinct brown pattern similar to *Ph. ancoralis* but ocular area only posteriorly darkened and median band slightly divided medially, clypeus not darkened, sternum and legs light brown, tips of femora and tibiae lighter, abdomen ochre-gray with distinctive dorsal and ventral brown pattern similar to *Ph. ancoralis*. Distance PME-PME 150 µm, diameter PME 135 µm, distance PME-ALE 35 µm, distance AME-AME 25 µm, diameter AME 60 µm. Ocular area elevated, very compact, with distinctive pair of horns between triads and very low median hump above AME, hairs on posterior side in higher than usual density but short. No thoracic furrow (only black line anteriorly); clypeus unmodified. Chelicerae as in *Ph. ancoralis* (cf. Fig. 1489). Sternum wider than long (0.95/0.70), unmodified. Palps in general very similar to *Ph. ancoralis*, but trochanter apophysis shorter, femur apophysis more proximal, uncus slightly wider, embolus longer and more curved, appendix tip more curved, dorso-distal tip of procursus narrower (Figs. 1502, 1503). Legs without spines and curved hairs, few vertical hairs; retrolateral trichobothrium on tibia 1 at 4%; prolateral trichobothrium absent on tibia 1, present on other tibiae; tarsal pseudosegments indistinct, only distally ~10 visible in dissecting microscope.

Variation. In two other males median brown band on carapace not divided medially. Tibia 1: 13.3, 13.5.

Female. In general similar to male but ocular area without horns (triads at same distance); brown pattern on carapace includes ocular area and clypeus. Tibia 1 in 2 females: 11.0, 13.9. Epigynum extremely similar to *Ph. ancoralis* (Fig. 1415), externally not distinguishable, also internal view almost identical (Fig. 1416), only pore plates medially less angular.

Distribution. Known from Papua New Guinea, Central Province, only (Fig. 1486).

Material examined. PAPUA NEW GUINEA: *Central Province*: Varirata National Park: ♂ holotype above; same locality, 2.vi.1985 (D.J. Court), 1♂ in RMNH; same locality, 10.v.1986 (D.J. Court), 1♀ 1 juv. in RMNH. SW side of main Astrolabe Range, adjacent Sirinumu Dam [~9°30'S, 147°27'E], 15.vii.1986 (D.J. Court), 1♂1♀ in RMNH. Goldie [River] Barracks [9°21'S, 147°16'E], 11.viii.1986 (D.J. Court), 1♀ in RMNH.