

## On the taxonomic position of the East Asian species of the genus *Ummidia* THORELL, 1875 (Araneae: Ctenizidae)

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**Abstract:** Original webspiders like Mygalomorphae or Mesothelae may cause some taxonomical problems, because the morphological characters usually used among Araneomorphae may not allow a clear distinction of these species. This is the case even in female receptacula where differences may be slight or a great variability may exist in a single population. A critical review on the history of synonymization and a comparison of the biology of East Asian *Ummidia* species leads to a new classification: The two species known from Japan and from Taiwan are members of the genus *Conothele*. The way they construct their short, superficial burrow is entirely identical with the species of *Conothele*. Members of the genus *Ummidia* differ considerably in their behaviour: they dig burrows in the soil.

**Key words:** spiders, Mygalomorphae, *Conothele fragaria* new comb., *Conothele taiwanensis* new comb.