Seven years ago the genus Davus was almost unknown taxa for Czech tarantula keepers. Everybody who wanted to know more could find that in 1982 Costarican arachnologist Valerio synonymized the genus Davus O. P. Cambridge, 1892 with Cystosternum Ausserer, 1871. Valerio argued that type specimen of Davus fasciatus O.P-Cambridge, 1892 was described by reverend O.P-Cambridgem according damaged specimen from unknown locality and its holotype is officially lost. Due to the absence of type specimen and an effort to avoid the doubts about validity of this species, Valerio published in 1982 brief description of the nootype of male captured in rain forest near San Carlos in the province Alajuela, Costa Rica. In this description he mentioned as well another morphological characters which were omitted in the paper of reverend O.P-Cambridge and his nephew E.O.P-Cambridge. Till this moment Valerio’s intention seems to be clear and logical. But there is a few mistakes and imperfections inside. Valerio dates the announcement of new description of Cystosternum (Davus) fasciatiurn by O.P-Cambridge up to 1902 (contra 1892 in original Cambridge’s paper). The source of this discrepancy is unclear. Valerio’s paper contains another and much more fundamental imperfection. It lacks the morphological characters of female, above all description of spermathecae. The examination of spermathecal structures in females is considered an important taxonomical tool since half of 20th century.
In 2005 German arachnologist G. Schmidt restored the genus *Davus* with type species *Davus fasciatus* O.P.-Cambridge, 1892 and redescribed both sexes. The genus *Pseudochizopelma* Smith, 1994, which was synonymized in 1996 by Perez-Miles et al. with *Cyclosternum* Ausserer, 1871, was synonymized with the genus *Davus*. Its type species *Pseudochizopelma macropus*, first described by Ausserer in 1875 as *Cycsidromus macropus*, was placed by E.O.P.-Cambridge in 1897 to *Schizopelma* E.O.P Cambridge, 1897 and transferred by Schmidt to the genus *Davus*. Another species, *Pseudochizopelma pentatoris* described by E. Simon in 1888 as *Cycsidromus pentatoris* and transferred by E.O.P.-Cambridge in 1897 to the genus *Hapalopus* Ausserer, 1871, was also transferred by Schmidt to the restored genus *Davus* with which shares very similar shape of spermathecae and morphology of male palpal bulb.

The restored genus *Davus* O.P.-Cambridge, 1892 includes the following species: *D. fasciatus* O.P.-Cambridge, 1892, *D. macropus* (Ausserer, 1875) a *D. pentatoris* (Simon, 1888).

Schmidt also includes *Cyclosternum obscurum* Simon, 1891 to the genus *Davus*. *C. obscurum* Simon, 1891 was described according one female collected in Mexico. Schmidt argues for the including but only with similarity in the shape of spermathecae. This simplified argumentation is insufficient. Since description of male doesn’t exist, any other outstanding features are not known for correct identification. Due to this fact the mentioned species could belong to the genus *Davus*, *Schizopelma* or *Hapalopus*. All three genera are represented by fused spermathecae and by tarsal scopulae III and IV divided by band or line of setae. The genus *Davus* can be distinguished from *Hapalopus* by larger size, very long retrolateral tibial apophysis on tibia I in males and more structured spermathecae which is not so wide and narrow as in the genus *Hapalopus*. The genus *Davus* is also

very closely related to Schizopelma and it can be distinguished by two tibial apophysis on leg I in males. The genus Schizopelma is characterized by only one tibial apophysis with apical megaspine on tibia I. The genus Davus is distributed in subtropical forests of Mexico and Central America.

Table 1: List of the valid species pertaining to the genus Davus O.P.-Cambridge, 1892

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Localities</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Davus fasciatus</td>
<td>Costa Rica (Alajuela)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davus macropus (Aussener, 1875)</td>
<td>Mexico (Orizaba)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davus pentaloris (Simon, 1888)</td>
<td>Guatemala (San Cristobal, Vera Paz, Guatemala City)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mexico (Oaxaca, costal line)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Generic diagnosis of restored genus Davus O.P.-Cambridge, 1892
- males: tibia I in males with two apophysis, retrolateral tibial apophysis is mostly exceptionally long, strong, moderately tapering embolus (similar to the genus Hapalopus)
- females: with single fused spermatheca, mostly flattened and structured at apex
- scopulae of tarsus IV divided by line or band of thin setae
- presence of abdominal urticating hairs type III
- clypeus moderately wide.

Davus pentaloris, Mexico, Oaxaca, spermathecae. The shape of spermathecae is an important generic character to distinguish the both genera, Davus and Cyclosternum

Davus sp., Costa Rica, spermathecae of subadult female

Literature cited:
DAVUS FASCICATUS, Costa Rica, immature female (photo: R. Kaderka). See page 124

Female of DAVUS PENTALORIS, Mexico, Oaxaca, first described by Simon, 1888 as CRYPSIDROMUS PENTALORIS, then incorrectly transferred to the genera HAPALOPUS and PSEUDOSCHIZOPELMA (photo: R. Kaderka) See page 124