

1 The Influence of Pedipalp Autotomy on the 2 Courtship and Mating Behavior of *Pardosa* 3 *milvina* (Araneae: Lycosidae)

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6 *Male Pardosa milvina wolf spiders use their pedipalps both for copulation*
7 *and courtship. Pedipalp loss is significantly more common among adult*
8 *males compared to females. We measured the courtship and mating effects as-*
9 *sociated with the loss of one or both pedipalps among adult male P. milvina.*
10 *Pedipalp loss significantly reduced courtship intensity, but had no influence*
11 *on mounting success. Intact males were less likely to be cannibalized and*
12 *suffered fewer predatory attacks by females than autotomized males. Loss*
13 *of the left pedipalp resulted in significantly less intense courtship, higher fe-*
14 *male aggression levels, and delayed onset of courtship whereas loss of the*
15 *right pedipalp minimally affected male and female behavior relative to intact*
16 *males. Pedipalp displays may function in reducing female aggression rather*
17 *than increasing female receptivity.*

18 **KEY WORDS:** *Pardosa milvina*; pedipalp; courtship; wolf spider; lycosidae; mating success.

19

INTRODUCTION

20 Spiders exhibit sexual dimorphism in their anterior-most appendages, pedi-
21 palps. Among adult females and juveniles, these limbs are used most of-
22 ten to facilitate prey capture, manipulation, and consumption. In adult
23 males, pedipalps are highly modified as copulatory organs for sperm

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24 transfer. Male pedipalps also possess chemosensory hairs used to locate
25 receptive females through pheromone detection and dragline following
26 and, in many species, are waved, rotated, drummed, or rubbed as part of
27 courtship displays (Montgomery, 1903; Kaston, 1936; Rovner, 1967). In
28 some species, they may also be brightly colored or covered in decorative
29 setae relative to female pedipalps. Consequently, in addition to their obvi-
30 ous role in sperm transfer, pedipalps are likely to be important for locating
31 potential mates and possibly conveying information to the female about
32 species identity or male quality prior to mating.

33 Leg loss due to predator avoidance, conspecific aggressive interactions,
34 or general injury is a common phenomenon among wolf spiders, occurring
35 in more than 30% of spiders in some field populations (Brueseke *et al.*,
36 2001; Brautigam and Persons, 2003). The foraging, predator avoidance, and
37 mating costs of leg autotomy have been well quantified in lycosids as well
38 (Klawinski and Formanowicz, 1995; Uetz *et al.*, 1996; Amaya *et al.*, 2001;
39 Brueseke *et al.*, 2001; Brautigam and Persons, 2003). However, we are un-
40 aware of studies that have recorded the frequency of pedipalp loss among
41 field populations of spiders that do not routinely self-amputate their pedi-
42 palps (Chamberlin and Ivie, 1934; Knoflach and van Harten, 2000, 2001;
43 Knoflach and Benjamin, 2003). There are several elegant studies that have
44 examined the influence of pedipalp loss on sperm induction, and copulatory
45 behavior but these studies did not explicitly quantify the influence of pedi-
46 palp loss on changes in pre-mating displays or test for lateralization effects
47 of lost or impaired pedipalps (Rovner, 1966a,b, 1967; Rovner, 1971; Rovner
48 and Wright, 1975).

49 Male *P. milvina* use the first pair of legs extensively during courtship
50 displays (see Montgomery, 1903, and Kaston, 1936, for a complete de-
51 scription of *P. milvina* courtship), as do many species in the genus
52 *Pardosa* (Koomans *et al.*, 1974). Pedipalps of male *P. milvina* are par-
53 ticularly conspicuous since they are covered by black setae that contrast
54 sharply with the brown color of the legs and body. Additionally, males ac-
55 tively wave the pedipalps during courtship which suggests they may func-
56 tion as an active component of the male's visual display (Hebets and Uetz,
57 2000). Prior to formal courtship, the male rolls the medial surface of the
58 pedipalp across the substrate when contacting silk embedded with sex
59 pheromones from a virgin female (Rypstra *et al.*, 2003). Detection of the
60 silk then initiates localized mate searching and low-intensity courtship un-
61 til contact with the female is made. These observations suggest that pedi-
62 palps may also be important for chemical detection of females by male
63 *P. milvina*.

64 There were two main objectives of our study. The first was a census of
65 the frequency and pattern of pedipalp loss by age class and sex in the wolf

Mating Effects of Pedipalp Loss

66 spider *P. milvina*. We expected that adult male wolf spiders would have a
67 higher incidence of pedipalp loss because of higher activity levels and con-
68 spicuousness relative to adult females and juveniles (Kotiaho *et al.*, 1998;
69 Persons, 1999; Persons and Uetz, 1999; Walker *et al.*, 1999). Also, the fre-
70 quency of leg loss is significantly higher among adult males than females
71 and is also higher among juveniles (Brautigam and Persons, 2003). The
72 second objective was to measure shifts in male courtship behavior and fe-
73 male response due to pedipalp loss. We tested if male wolf spiders missing
74 one or both pedipalps reduced courtship intensity or otherwise compro-
75 mised courtship displays. Recent studies indicate that *P. milvina* leg raise
76 and body shake rates significantly influence mating success (Rypstra *et al.*,
77 2003; Brautigam and Persons, 2003) and is therefore used in female mate
78 choice. If pedipalp waving has a species recognition function, we expected
79 females to reject mating attempts by males missing one or both pedipalps
80 more often than intact individuals and that females would respond slower to
81 palp-autotomized males, as measured by longer courtship duration and in-
82 creased latency to mount. Since pedipalps appear to have many chemosen-
83 sory hairs used in pheromone detection of females (Tietjen and Rovner,
84 1982), the loss of one or more pedipalps may compromise the ability of the
85 male to effectively locate females and therefore delay the onset of courtship
86 and mating. If pedipalp-waving is an important part of a male wolf spi-
87 der's courtship display, then males who are unable to perform this behavior
88 should suffer lower mating success. We also expected an increase in cannibalism and aggression toward these males if pedipalp-waving is used as a species recognition cue.

91

METHODS

92

Field Census of Pedipalp Loss

93 Male ($N = 332$) and female ($N = 539$) *P. milvina* of various age classes
94 were collected in corn and soybean fields in Snyder County, PA, from May
95 to August, 2000. Each spider was transferred to the laboratory where they
96 were individually maintained in 6 oz. plastic containers lined with moist-
97 ened peat moss. Within 12 h of collecting, each spider was sexed and cate-
98 gorized by age class (adult females without egg sacs, adult females with egg
99 sacs, subadult females, adult males, or subadult males). Juveniles too small
100 for accurate sex determination were not collected. Individual spiders were
101 then identified as missing none, one (right or left), or both pedipalps. Dif-
102 ferences in pedipalp loss among categories were analyzed using a chi-square
103 goodness-of-fit test.

104 Estimating the Courtship and Mating Costs of Pedipalp Loss**105 *General Spider Collection and Maintenance***

106 We tested the effects of male pedipalp loss on courtship, mating, and
107 intersexual agonistic behavior. Intact subadult male and female *P. milv-*
108 *ina* collected from the census data were used in this study as well as
109 additional subadult individuals that were collected in corn and soybean
110 fields (Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, Snyder County, PA) from
111 May to August 2000. Spiders were then individually reared until matu-
112 rity in the lab to insure virginity of all adult spiders. Spiders were housed
113 separately within 8-cm diameter \times 5-cm high plastic translucent contain-
114 ers lined with moistened peat moss and maintained on a 13 L:11 D pho-
115 toperiod at ambient room temperature (22–25°C). Each spider was fed
116 once a week with a mixed diet of four to seven 5-day-old house crick-
117 ets (*Acheta domesticus*) and several fruit flies (Canton-S strain, *Drosophila*
118 *melanogaster*).

119 *Hunger Standardization and Pedipalp Removal Procedure*

120 To minimize variation in courtship, mating, and female aggressive and
121 cannibalistic behavior attributable to hunger, we standardized hunger lev-
122 els for all test spiders prior to mating. After maturation, unmated male
123 and female spiders were given as many crickets as they could eat within a
124 24-h period. Excess food was then removed from each container and spi-
125 ders were denied additional food for 6 days, approximating natural lev-
126 els of hunger (Edgar, 1969; Nyffeler and Breene, 1990). Two days after
127 feeding to satiety, each male spider was placed in a clean plastic container
128 over ice for 30 s. This served to slow his movement and provide an anes-
129 thetic. Pedipalp autotomy was induced by pinching the designated pedi-
130 palp on the femur with a pair of entomological forceps causing the spi-
131 der to subsequently self-amputate the limb along the coxa–trochanter joint
132 (Johnson and Jakob, 1999; Brautigam and Persons, 2003). There were three
133 induced autotomy treatments of virgin male *P. milvina* along with a con-
134 trol; individual males were randomly divided among treatments: (1) both
135 pedipalps autotomized ($N = 33$), (2) left pedipalp autotomized ($N = 36$),
136 (3) right pedipalp autotomized ($N = 34$), and (4) chilled, but no pedi-
137 palps autotomized ($N = 36$). Spiders in the control group underwent a
138 sham operation by also being put on ice for 30 s followed by a light press-
139 ing of the femur with entomological forceps but not sufficiently to induce
140 autotomization.

141

Pairing Procedure

142 Four days after the limb autotomy procedure, each experimental male
143 was paired with a randomly selected unmated female. Prior to pairing, a
144 set of 20-cm diameter round plastic containers was rinsed with ethanol
145 to remove extraneous odors that might modify spider responses. A circular
146 sheet of paper was then placed on the bottom of each container and
147 fixed in place using masking tape. Tape was used to prevent spiders from
148 crawling under the paper and out of view during videotaping. A female
149 spider was then placed inside the container and given access to water via
150 two 2.5-cm diameter vial lids placed on opposite sides of the sheet of paper.
151 Females were left in the container overnight and allowed to deposit
152 pheromone-laden silk draglines for 20 h. The following day, 4 days after
153 male autotomization of pedipalps, the water lids were removed from
154 the female's container and male and female spiders were allowed to interact.
155 The male spider was introduced into the female's container under
156 an inverted clear plastic 40-dram vial and allowed to acclimate for 5 min.
157 The male spider was then released to freely interact with the female for
158 30 min or until the male mated and dismounted the female. All pairings
159 were videotaped from above and analyzed later to reduce the possible
160 effects of observer presence on spider behavior. Testing was conducted
161 from 8:00 h to 18:00 h from late May through early August 2000. Trials
162 for all treatments were randomized throughout the day and over subsequent
163 days and weeks to control for possible time-of-day and sequence
164 effects.

165

Behavioral Measurements

166 For each mating trial the following information was recorded:
167 pedipalp-removal treatment, number of male leg raises, number of male
168 body shakes, female lunges toward the male, cannibalism of males by
169 females, time of courtship initiation by male since placed with the female
170 (courtship latency), duration of time elapsed from the beginning of
171 the trial to when the male mounted the female (mounting latency), and
172 the total time the male was mounted on the female (mounting duration).
173 We defined "mount" as the male climbing on the dorsum of the female
174 prior to copulation. For purposes of this study, we defined copulation as an
175 insertion of the pedipalp into the female epigynum. This distinction is used
176 throughout since males that lack pedipalps cannot copulate, but can mount,
177 which among intact males is nearly always followed by copulation and is
178 considered a strong indicator of female acceptance and receptivity toward

179 the male. Leg raises, pedipalp raises, and body shakes are components of
 180 the male mating display and have been described in detail elsewhere (see
 181 Montgomery, 1903; and Kaston, 1936). The anterior pair of legs is used in a
 182 visual display where the legs are simultaneous raised and lowered. Male spi-
 183 ders will usually raise their pedipalps in unison with leg raises but may also
 184 raise them independently of leg raises. The third component, body shakes,
 185 occurs when the spider's body vibrates rapidly for bouts lasting from 1–2 s.
 186 Leg raises and body shakes were both converted to rates by dividing total
 187 number of occurrences of that courtship element by the total courtship
 188 duration. Courtship duration was defined as the time from initiation of
 189 leg raises or body shakes until mounting occurred or until the 30-min trial
 190 period had expired.

191

Statistical Analyses

192 We used separate one-way ANOVAs and *post hoc* comparison of
 193 means (Tukey test) to analyze courtship latency, body shakes/s, leg raises/s,
 194 total courtship displays/s, mounting latency, mounting duration, and to-
 195 tal number of lunges at the male by the female for each limb loss treat-
 196 ment. Courtship latency, mounting latency, and mounting or copulation
 197 duration were natural log transformed prior to analysis to conform to
 198 assumptions of normality. All other variables approximated normal dis-
 199 tributions without transformation. We used chi-squared goodness-of-fit
 200 tests to compare mounting success and incidence of cannibalism across
 201 treatments.

202

RESULTS

203

Field Census of Pedipalp Loss

204 Missing pedipalps was relatively uncommon among field-collected
 205 spiders. Out of 871 *P. milvina*, 14 had one or both missing pedipalps,
 206 comprising only 1.6% of the population (Table I). We found significant
 207 differences in the pattern of pedipalp loss among the various age and sex
 208 classes of spider ($\chi^2 = 24.895$; $p < 0.0001$; Table I). Field-caught adult
 209 males were most likely to have a missing pedipalp, significantly more likely
 210 than adult females ($\chi^2 = 4.314$, $p = 0.0378$) but not subadult males ($\chi^2 =$
 211 2.7 , $p < 0.09$). Of the 14 spiders with missing pedipalps, 12 were adult males
 212 comprising 5% of the adult male population. The remaining two spiders
 213 with missing pedipalps consisted of one adult female and one subadult

Mating Effects of Pedipalp Loss

Table I. Frequencies of Pedipalp Loss Among Age and Sex Classes of Field-Caught *Pardosa milvina* Wolf Spiders from May Through August 2000 ($N = 871$)

	Adult female	Adult female w/o egg sac	Subadult female	Subadult male	Adult male
Intact	126	165	247	91	228
Pedipalps missing	1	0	0	1	12
% missing pedipalps	0.8	0	0	1	5

214 male. Only one spider, a single adult male, had more than one pedipalp
 215 missing.

216 **Courtship and Mating Costs of Pedipalp Loss**

217 We found no significant difference in male mounting success across
 218 treatments ($\chi^2 = 2.33, p < 0.50$; Table II), nor did intact males spend sig-
 219 nificantly shorter amounts of time courting or mounted on the female than
 220 did pedipalp-autotomized males (Table III). However, males with the left
 221 or both pedipalps autotomized took a significantly longer time period to
 222 begin courting than either intact individuals or those that had their right
 223 pedipalp lost (Table III). In general, the loss of the left pedipalp had greater
 224 effects on courtship than the loss of the right. Courtship intensity varied sig-
 225 nificantly among pedipalp treatments (Table III). Individuals with the left
 226 or both pedipalps autotomized displayed significantly fewer leg raises than
 227 other treatments. There were also fewer body shakes completed among
 228 males with the left pedipalp lost compared to the right pedipalp or intact
 229 males (Table III).

230 A total of 10 adult male spiders were cannibalized across all pedipalp
 231 treatments (7.4%). Males with both pedipalps autotomized were signifi-
 232 cantly more likely to be cannibalized than other treatments ($\chi^2 = 8.58, p <$

Table II. Mounting of Females and Cannibalism of Males Across Pedipalp Removal Treatments

	Intact males ($N = 33$)	Left pedipalp removed ($N = 36$)	Right pedipalp removed ($N = 33$)	Both pedipalps removed ($N = 33$)
Mount	22 (67)	20 (56)	22 (67)	16 (48)
No mount	11 (33)	16 (44)	11 (33)	17 (52)
Cannibalized	0 (0)	2 (6)	2 (6)	6 (18)
Not cannibalized	33 (0)	34 (94)	31 (94)	27 (82)

Note. Percentage of all subjects within a treatment indicated in parentheses.

Table III. Courtship and Related Pre-Mating and Mounting Behaviors (Mean \pm SE) Measured for Adult Male and Female *Pardosa milvina* by Pedipalp Removal Treatments

Behavior	Both pedipalps removed (33)	Left pedipalp removed (36)	Right pedipalp removed (33)	Intact males (33)	$F_{3,132}$	p
Number of female attacks/pairing	3.67 \pm 0.78 ^a	3.25 \pm 0.65 ^a	1.79 \pm 0.34 ^b	1.46 \pm 0.30 ^c	3.71	0.013*
Latency to court (s)	160.8 \pm 44.3 ^a	162.9 \pm 46.0 ^{ab}	85.1 \pm 30.9 ^{bc}	45.12 \pm 8.77 ^c	2.72	0.047*
Courtship duration (s)	831.7 \pm 135.9	883.3 \pm 116.3	516.0 \pm 111.9	677.912 \pm 134.3	1.79	0.153
Mount duration (s)	718.2 \pm 125.8	766.9 \pm 89.7	823.8 \pm 115.7	1058.8 \pm 120.1	1.73	0.167
Leg raises/min	0.206 \pm 0.037 ^a	0.190 \pm 0.023 ^a	0.284 \pm 0.034 ^b	0.331 \pm 0.043 ^b	3.87	0.011*
Body shakes/min	0.152 \pm 0.034 ^{ab}	0.113 \pm 0.017 ^a	0.208 \pm 0.026 ^b	0.202 \pm 0.028 ^b	3.10	0.029*

Note. Number of pairs used in each treatment is indicated in parentheses below each treatment. F ratio is based on one-way ANOVAs for each behavioral category. Letters superscripted above each mean indicate significant differences between treatments based on a Tukey *post hoc* comparison of means test. Behaviors without letters were not statistically significant at the 0.05 alpha level based on the omnibus test. Identical letters indicate groups that are not significantly different from each other.

0.036; Table II). Males with missing pedipalps were also significantly more likely to be attacked by females (Table III).

DISCUSSION

Field caught adult males of *Pardosa milvina* were significantly more likely to be missing a pedipalp than adult females and had the highest frequency of pedipalp loss of any age/sex class (Table I). Pedipalp loss was found in only 5% of the adult male population. However, we suggest that the true prevalence of pedipalp loss may be considerably higher. Ten percent of males with one or both pedipalps missing were cannibalized during encounters with virgin females. It is difficult to estimate male encounter rates with females, however *P. milvina* can occur at densities of over five individuals/m² (Marshall and Rypstra, 1999) and male *P. milvina* are highly mobile with males traveling an average of 431 cm in 30 min (Walker and Rypstra, 2003). Therefore, encounter rates with females are likely to be high and males with missing pedipalps are less likely to survive interactions with females, contributing to an underestimate of the actual rate of pedipalp loss. For the same reason, very low prevalence of males with two pedipalps missing may be underestimated since these males are cannibalized by virgin females in 18% of encounters.

It remains unclear why pedipalp loss was more prevalent in males than females or juveniles. Adult male *P. milvina* are not significantly more active than females (Walker and Rypstra, 2003); however, male courtship displays together with higher activity levels may render male wolf spiders more conspicuous and therefore susceptible to predators (Kotiaho *et al.*, 1998). Results of our study indicate that conspecific females may also be a significant source of male predation. Despite cannibalism and high levels of female aggression during trials, we observed no pedipalp or limb loss during male–female courtship and mating interactions suggesting that although it may be a significant source of mortality for pedipalp-autotomized males, it may not be a frequent direct cause of palp loss. Studies of the wolf spider *Schizocosa ocreata* found that leg loss occurred in 11% of all male–female pairings ($N = 135$) with the first pair of legs being lost significantly more often than other pairs (Persons and Uetz, 2005). However, as in our study, no incidences of pedipalp loss were observed during courtship interactions. Given the absence of observed pedipalp loss during male–female interactions in our study, the most likely reason for male-biased pedipalp loss may be failure of the pedipalp to be successfully extracted from the exuvia during the ultimate molt. Since male *P. milvina*

272 pedipalps are larger and more developed among adult males than those
273 in the penultimate instar, this likely creates a constriction around the old
274 exuvia that makes extraction particularly difficult. This molting difficulty
275 is likely unique to penultimate males but could potentially be a difficulty
276 among antepenultimate instar males as well since these males also have
277 enlarged pedipalps, albeit less so than penultimate individuals. Since our
278 data show no significant difference in pedipalp loss between penultimate
279 and adult males, this may be the case. If males do have the old exuvium
280 trapped only around one or both pedipalps, autotomization may be the
281 only viable option other than dragging it around with them through the
282 environment where it likely would greatly hamper movement and feeding
283 as well as interfere with courtship and increase predation risk.

284 We found that male pedipalp loss significantly reduced male courtship
285 intensity (leg raise rates and body shake rates), but had no significant impact
286 on mounting success or mounting duration. This was particularly surprising
287 given that recent studies have found that courtship intensity in *P. milvina* is
288 significantly associated with mating success (Brautigam and Persons, 2003;
289 Rypstra *et al.*, 2003). Some detailed manipulative studies of several species
290 of wolf spiders however have shown that males with plugged, restrained,
291 or autotomized pedipalps are still capable of courtship displays, achieving
292 mounts on the female, and engaging in copulatory or pseudocopulatory
293 behavior (Rovner, 1966a,b, 1967; Rovner and Wright, 1975). Rovner and
294 Wright (1975) suggested that pedipalp fatigue may be the proximate mech-
295 anism that terminates mating in the wolf spider *Schizocosa saltatrix* and
296 *S. avida*. Although there was a nonsignificant trend toward shorter mount-
297 ing duration among palpless males, time spent mounted did not vary among
298 our treatments suggesting that mounting duration was largely determined
299 by some other mechanism in *P. milvina* such as cessation of female ab-
300 domen rotation or increased female activity.

301 Unexpectedly, we found evidence of significant differences in courtship
302 behavior depending on whether the left or right pedipalp was lost. Males
303 missing the left pedipalp showed significantly reduced courtship latencies
304 than intact males and less intense courtship (Table II). More importantly,
305 females attacked males with the left pedipalp missing significantly more of-
306 ten than individuals with the right or no pedipalps missing. Quantitative
307 studies on the morphological differences between the right and left pedi-
308 palp have not been done in lycosids. There has also been little work done
309 comparing the role of the left and right pedipalp in sound generation, visual
310 signaling during courtship, or chemoreception. As such, any causative ex-
311 planation for differences between pedipalps must remain speculative. The
312 visual components of the male's courtship display appear to be symmet-
313 rical with both pedipalps and the first pair of legs being raised in unison

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314 (Montgomery, 1903). This suggests no real difference in visual informa-
315 tion conveyed by the left or right pedipalp. However, some aspects of the
316 courtship display occur so quickly that they may only be accurately analyzed
317 with high-speed cinematography. Further, there have never been compar-
318 ative measurements of density or distribution of decorative setae on each
319 pedipalp. Critical differences in sound production by each pedipalp are also
320 possible but largely unknown. We did note that the pedipalps appeared to
321 contact the substratum during courtship, making sound production likely.
322 Rovner (1967) experimentally removed one or both pedipalps of courting
323 *Rabidosa rabida* wolf spiders and found that sound production was primar-
324 ily through the pedipalps. Another possible explanation for the difference
325 in male behavior and female response is asymmetry in the distribution of
326 chemosensory hairs on the left and right pedipalp used to detect female
327 sex-pheromones. Previous studies have demonstrated that the onset and in-
328 tensity of *P. milvina* courtship is mediated largely by the detection of female
329 pheromones (Searcy *et al.*, 1999; Rypstra *et al.*, 2003) and the pheromones,
330 in turn, are detected primarily through the pedipalps (Tietjen and Rovner,
331 1982). Rypstra *et al.* (2003) showed that the absence of female pheromones
332 reduced the number of leg shakes and body shakes during male courtship.
333 Since body shake and courtship rates are used in the assessment of males by
334 females (Brautigam and Persons, 2003; Rypstra *et al.*, 2003), then males with
335 low courtship intensity may be valued more as a potential meal than a mate
336 and result in increased aggression by females (Persons and Uetz, 2005). Re-
337 gardless of the proximate mechanism generating these differences, our re-
338 sults strongly suggest some lateralization of use or asymmetry in some mor-
339 phological aspect of male pedipalps that is critically important for species
340 recognition by females or inhibiting aggression toward males.

341 Yoward and Oxford (1996) and Stratton *et al.* (1996) reviewed pedi-
342 palp usage patterns in all spiders and wolf spiders, respectively. Yoward
343 and Oxford (1996) showed that some species of non-lycosid spider have bi-
344 ased pedipalp use and routinely use only a single pedipalp during mating,
345 however in these studies there was no evidence of pedipalp lateralization
346 at the species level. Although Stratton *et al.* (1996) found species specific
347 variation in copulatory patterns among lycosids, all species apparently used
348 both pedipalps during mating.

349 Given that pedipalp loss significantly affected cannibalism risk and fe-
350 male aggression levels but had no significant impact on mounting success,
351 we suggest that pedipalps are not necessary to achieve a successful mount,
352 but could function specifically in reducing female aggression. It remains un-
353 clear if pedipalp-waving in *P. milvina* is a visual display or merely a by-
354 product of sound production or attempts to detect female pheromones and
355 silk. Given the distinct pigmentation of the pedipalps relative to the rest of

356 the body, coupled with the synchronization and pattern of the display, we
 357 suggest that pedipalp-waving is probably a visual display and may serve as
 358 an amplifier for a visual signal (Hebets and Uetz, 2000). Nonetheless, this
 359 signal is not crucial in female mate choice, but instead appears to be critical
 360 for reducing predatory behaviors in females.

361

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