

On a small spider collection from the lower reaches of the River Ob', western Siberia (Russia)

by Dmitri Logunov

Some time ago, a small, opportunistically collected sample of spiders brought recently from western Siberia was sent to me for identification. The spiders originated from various boggy-forest habitats from the Khanty-Mansi Autonomous Area of western Siberia: Yugra, Berezhovskii District, the middle reaches of the River Tol'ya (between 63°09'N/60°05'E and 63°12'N/60°14'E), 28th July–14th August 2007; collected by A. Rezvyi, Y. Skuchas and S. Ivantsov. This area is rather remote and lies in the lower reaches of the River Ob', the main river of western Siberia.

The collection comprises 23 species from 10 families and is now kept in the Manchester Museum (accession number G7487). The following is a list of the species recorded.

Araneidae

Araneus marmoreus Clerck, 1757 - 1♂3♀

Araneus saevus (L. Koch, 1872) - 1♂1♀

Larinioides cornutus (Clerck, 1757) - 1♀

Larinioides patagiatus (Clerck, 1757) - 1♀

Clubionidae

Clubiona stagnatilis Kulczyński, 1897 - 1♀

Gnaphosidae

Gnaphosa muscorum (L. Koch, 1866) - 1♀

Haplodrassus cognatus (Westring, 1861) - 1♀

Haplodrassus moderatus (Kulczyński, 1897) - 1♀

Linyphiidae

(?)*Porrhomma pygmaeum* (Blackwall, 1834) - 1♀

Lycosidae

Pardosa amentata (Clerck, 1757) - 4♀

Pardosa jenseica Eskov et Marusik, 1995 - 2♀

Pardosa plumipes (Thorell, 1875) - 1♀

Xerolycosa nemoralis (Westring, 1861) - 1♀

Philodromidae

Philodromus cespitum (Walckenaer, 1802) - 1♀

Philodromus margaritatus (Clerck, 1757) - 1♀

Tibellus maritimus (Menge, 1875) - 1♀

Salticidae

Evarcha falcata (Clerck, 1757) - 1♂3♀

Tetragnathidae

Pachygnatha listeri Sundevall, 1830 - 1♀

Tetragnatha extensa (Linnaeus, 1758) - 1♀

Theridiidae

(?)*Robertus lyrifer* Holm, 1939 - 1♀

Steatoda bipunctata (Linnaeus, 1758) - 1♂

Thomisidae

Xysticus audax (Schrank, 1803) - 1♀

Xysticus ulmi (Hahn, 1831) - 1♀

The majority of these species are rather common and widespread. However, it is worth mentioning *Pardosa jenseica*, which although widespread in Siberia, is rare where it occurs. The typical habitats of *P. jenseica* are sandy and pebble banks of Siberian rivers (e.g., Marusik *et al.*, 2000; Rybalov *et al.*, 2002). The current record in Khanty-Mansi lies at the north-westernmost limit of its range. The discovery of *Araneus saevus* represents the northernmost record of the species in Asia. This species was reported from Yakutia (Marusik *et al.*, 1993), but without precise locality data.

I wish to thank Yuri Marusik (Magadan, Russia) and Sergei Esyunin (Perm, Russia) for useful comments and David Penney (Manchester, UK) for linguistic help.

References

- Marusik, Yu. M., Eskov, K. Yu., Koponen, S. & Vinokurov, N. N. 1993. A check-list of the spiders (Aranei) of Yakutia, Siberia. *Arthropoda Selecta*, 2 (2): 63–79.
- Marusik, Yu. M., Logunov, D. V. & Koponen, S. 2000. *Spiders of Tuva, South Siberia*. Magadan: 'IBPS DVO RAS', 252 pp.
- Rybalov, L. B., Marusik, Yu. M., Tanasevitch, A. B., Koponen, S. & Vorobyeva, I. G. 2002. [Spiders (Aranei) of the middle reaches of Yenisei river and the vicinities of Mirmoe station]. In: Shakhin, D.A. & Rogacheva, E.V. (eds), [Study of the biodiversity along the Yenisei ecological transect, Animals], Moscow: IPEE RAS, pp 72–95. [in Russian].

The Manchester Museum, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL; e-mail: dmitri.v.logunov@manchester.ac.uk

The Checklist of British Spiders According to Microsoft

by Greg Hitchcock

Ever run the Checklist of British Spiders through the spellchecker on a word-processor and accepted all the suggested changes? This is what happens (along with some suggested ecological notes!):

Savaging frittatas – a ferocious linyphiid that predates Italian omelettes.

(*Savignia frontata*)

Vegetarian sieve – the sheet webs of this agelenid are often used to drain lentils and pulses.

(*Tegenaria saeva*)

Euphoric herbaria – a jumping spider often found on cannabis plants.

(*Euophrys herbigrada*)

Enigma paella – this species' penchant for Spanish food is a mystery to arachnologists.

(*Nigma puella*)

Mystics locator – this crab spider, in the family Homicidae, sits on flowers catching passing occultists.

(*Xysticus luctator* (Thomisidae))

Controversists cappuccinos – after being used to test the effect of caffeine on web construction, this money spider really doesn't like coffee.

(*Centromerus capucinus*)