

Spider fauna in different types of Kazakhstan deserts

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The deserts of southern Kazakhstan (south of the 47th parallel) may be divided into several habitats characterized by the predominant type of soil substrate: i.e. loamy or sandy or stony substrates. The spider fauna occurring in these different types of deserts show characteristic differences. Most species exhibiting habitat preference are associated with loamy deserts: i.e. *Phyxioschema* sp., *Dysderina loricata*, *Cedicus* sp., *Aelurillus concolor*, *Gnaphosa betpaki*, *Palpimanus sogdianus*, *P.* sp., *Ozyptila lugubris*, *Lycosa nordmanni*, *Oculycosa supermirabilis*, *O.* sp. 1, 2, *Geolycosa* spp., *Argiope lobata*. Among those preferring loamy deserts some species are usually found in association with local deposits of stones there: i.e. *Uroctea* (?) *limbata*, *Hersiliola macullulata*, *Cyrba ocellata*, *Fedotovia uzbekistanica*, *Talanites* spp., *Prodidomus redikorzevi*, *Enoplognatha* spp.

In sandy deserts, in contrast, species composition is represented by *Eresus* sp., *Archaeodictyna* spp., *Titanoeca lehtineni*, *Sitticus kazakhstanicus*, *Thanatus constellatus*, *Th. kitabensis*, *Latrodectus pallidus pavlovskii*, *Agelena tadhika*, *Lycosa alticeps*, *Evippa brunneopicta*, *Aculepeira* (?) *victoria*, *A. armida*. Stony deserts are preferred by *Aelurillus v-insignitus*, *A. variegatus* and *Geolycosa* sp. 1, 2, *Pirata cereipes* prefers the shores of salt lakes. *Mogrus antoninus*, *Pterotricha shnitnikovi* and *Oxyopes maracandensis* occur in both loamy and sandy deserts while *Stegodyphus lineatus* may be found in loamy, stony and sandy deserts.