

Spiders from arid habitats of southeastern Kazakhstan

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The araneofauna of arid habitats in the southeastern part of Kazakhstan, east of the Khrebet Karatau range, comprises at least 262 species belonging to 118 genera from 33 families: only 47 of these are described species previously recorded from this geographic area. Since 1988 we have collected 215 species: 65 of these (30,2%), designated as "sp.", have not yet been identified as species: most of these are probably new species. A total of 197 known species have been collected of which 45 (22,8%) are endemic to Central Asia. First geographic records for Kazakhstan included: 6 families (Segestriidae, Oonopidae, Oecobiidae, Hersiliidae, Corinnidae, Mimetidae), 17 genera and 30 species. First geographic records for the former USSR included 5 species: *Archaeodictyna conducta*, *A. wangi*, *Koreodrassus koreanus*, *Evipa brunneopicta*, and *Lepthyphantes pepticus*.