

## The spider fauna of the Gülek Pass (Turkey) and its environs (Araneae)

Aydın Topçu<sup>1</sup>, Hakan Demir<sup>1</sup>, Osman Seyyar<sup>1</sup>, Tuncay Türkeş<sup>2</sup>

**Abstract:** The present study puts on record 140 species belonging to 70 genera and 28 families established in the region of Gülek Pass, Turkey. Five species, *Enoplognatha mordax* (THORELL, 1875), *Araneus sturmi* (HAHN, 1831), *Hypsosinga albovittata* (WESTRING, 1851), *Lycosa singoriensis* (LAXMANN, 1770) and *Pardosa hortensis* (THORELL, 1872), are new country records. The zoogeographical categories and habitats for all the spiders established in the region are presented.

**Key words:** spiders, faunistics, new records, Toros Mountains

### Introduction

The Turkish spiders are rather poorly studied. The most important papers dealing with the araneofauna of the country are those of KULCZYŃSKI (1903), NOSEK (1905), ROEWER (1960), KAROL (1967), and a series of publications of BRIGNOLI (1968, 1972, 1978a,b, 1979a,b). All existing information was summarised recently by BAYRAM (2002) and TOPÇU *et al.* (2005). In terms of spiders, still quite a number of regions remain to be faunistically prospected. The Gülek Pass in Toros Mountains is one of these white spots. The aim of the current study is to put on record the results of the investigations carried out between 2001 and 2003 in Gülek Pass and its environs, and to provide an analysis of the species diversity.

### Study area and Material

The Gülek Pass forms the main passage through the Toros Mountains, which are situated in southeastern Turkey. It has transitional characteristics between the low plains of the Mediterranean region and the high central plateau of Anatolia. Dominating the Mediterranean coast are the western and main ranges of the Toros Mountains, which tower over the narrow plains along the Mediterranean Sea. Rivers and streams that flow into the sea have cut steep-sided, narrow valleys through the main Toros range, providing natural passes through the mountains. The pass connects the alluvial Adana Plain, one of the most highly developed agricultural areas in Turkey, with the interior regions.

The vegetation types of the four main areas sampled are listed below:

- Steppe area, with plant community composed of: *Berberis crataegina*, *Crataegus monogyna*, *Eleagnus angustifolia*, *Onobrychis cornuta*, *Convolvulus compactus*, *Genista albida*, *Poa annua*, *Muscari longipes*, *Astragalus*, and *Acantholimon*.
- Forest area, with plant community composed of: *Quercus infectoria*, *Q. coccifera*,

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<sup>1</sup> University of Niğde, Faculty of Science & Arts, Department of Biology, TR-51200 Niğde, Turkey. E-mail: osmanseyyar@hotmail.com

<sup>2</sup> Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, University of Hacettepe, TR-06532, Ankara, Turkey

*Q. cerris*, *Sytrax officinalis*, *Phillyrea latifolia*, *Pistacia terebinthus*, *Rhamnus hirtellus*, *Juniperus excelsa*, *J. oxycedrus*, *Pinus brutia*, and *Cedrus libani*.

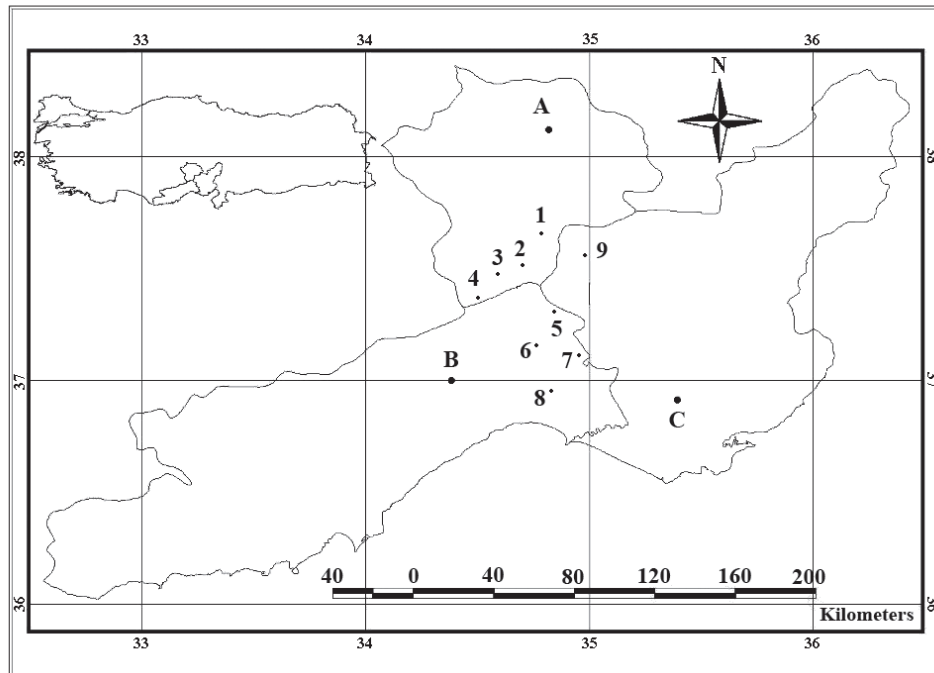
- Rocky area, with plant community composed of: *Cotoneaster nummularia*, *Teucrium chamaedrys*, *Centaurea drabafolia*, *Thymus spyleus*, *Salvia cryptantha*, *Arenaria angustifolia*, *Dianthus tabrisianus*, *Hypericum perforatum*, *Veronica multifida*, *Salvia lavandulifolia*, and *Potentilla speciosa*.

- Marshy area, with plant community composed of: *Salix alba*, *Euphorbia macroclada*, *Phragmites australis*, *Juncus inflexus*, *Mentha aquatica*, *Primula auriculata*, *Alchemilla ellenbergiana*, and *Polygonum amphibium*.

The material was collected from April 2001 to June 2003 by pit-fall trapping and hand collecting. The collecting sites are indicated on map (Fig. 1). The entire collection is currently preserved in the Arachnology Museum of Niğde University (NUAM).

## Results and Discussion

A total of 140 species belonging to 70 genera and the following 28 families were found (Table 1; respective number of species indicated in brackets): Sicariidae (1), Scytodidae (1), Pholcidae (4), Dysderidae (4), Palpimanidae (1), Mimetidae (2), Eresidae (1), Oecobiidae (1), Uloboridae (1), Theridiidae (8), Linyphiidae (5), Tetragnathidae (2), Araneidae (13), Lycosidae (13), Pisauridae (1), Oxyopidae (4), Agelenidae (2), Dictynidae (2), Amaurobiidae (2), Titanoecidae (2), Miturgidae (2), Liocranidae (1), Zodaridae (2), Gnaphosidae (24), Sparassidae (1), Philodromidae (6), Thomisidae (23) and Salticidae (11). One hundred and thirty-five species are new for the region, while the species: *Enoplognatha mordax* (THORELL, 1875), *Araneus sturmi* (HAHN, 1831), *Hypsos-*



**Fig. 1.** Map of Gülek Pass and its environs. Localities: A - Niğde Province, 1 - village of Gümüş, 2 - village of Maden, 3 - village of Alihoça, 4 - Meydan Plateau; B - Mersin Province, 5 - village of Belededik, 6 - town of Gülek, 7 - village of Sarıışık, 8 - village of Çamlıyayla; C - Adana Province, 9 - Pozantı District.

*inga albovittata* (WESTRING, 1851), *Lycosa singoriensis* (LAXMANN, 1770) and *Pardosa hortensis* (THORELL, 1872), are new for the Turkish araneofauna. Best represented are the families: Gnaphosidae - 17.14% of all records, Thomisidae - 16.42%, Lycosidae - 9.28%, Salticidae - 7.85%, Theridiidae - 5.71%, Philodromidae - 4.28%, and Lyniphiidae - 3.57%. The genus *Xysticus* is by far the species richest of all, having 13 species found to occur in the investigated region.

Concerning habitats, most of the species were found in marshy (101) and forest (50) areas, while a comparatively low number of species was registered in rocky (28) and steppic (26) habitats (Table 1).

**Table 1.** List of the spiders established in the Gülek Pass and their habitat distribution. Habitats: S - Steppic area, F - Forest area, R - Rocky area, M - Marshy area. **Localities:** Niğde Province: 1 - Gümüş, 2 - Maden, 3 - Alihoca, 4 - Meydan Plateau; Mersin Province: 5 - Belemelik, 6 - Gülek, 7 - Sarıışık, 8 - Çamlıyayla; Adana Province: 9 - Pozanti District.

Species	Distribution	Habitats	Locality
<b>Sicariidae</b>			
<i>Loxosceles rufescens</i> (DUFOUR, 1820)	Cosmopolitan	S	2
<b>Scytodidae</b>			
<i>Scytodes thoracica</i> (LATREILLE, 1802)	Holarctic, Pacific Is.	S	2, 6
<b>Pholcidae</b>			
<i>Holocnemus pluchei</i> (SCOPOLI, 1763)	Mediterranean	R	7
<i>Pholcus opilionoides</i> (SCHRANK, 1781)	Holarctic	R	2, 3, 5, 7
<i>Pholcus phalangioides</i> (FUESSLIN, 1775)	Cosmopolitan	R	2, 5, 7
<i>Hoplopholcus asiaminoris</i> BRIGNOLI, 1978	Turkey	R	5, 7
<b>Dysderidae</b>			
<i>Dysdera crocata</i> C. L. KOCH, 1838	Cosmopolitan	S, M	5, 6
<i>Dysdera erythrina</i> (WALCKENAER, 1802)	Europe, Georgia, Turkey	M, F	2, 3, 6, 9
<i>Dysdera ninnii</i> CANESTRINI, 1868	Southern Europe, Ukraine, Turkey	M	2, 4
<i>Dysdera taurica</i> CHARITONOV, 1956	Southern Europe, Ukraine, Turkey	M	2, 5
<b>Palpimanidae</b>			
<i>Palpimanus gibbulus</i> DUFOUR, 1820	Mediterranean, Central Asia	M	3, 9
<b>Mimetidae</b>			
<i>Ero aphana</i> (WALCKENAER, 1802)	Palaearctic	M, F	5
<i>Mimetes laevigatus</i> (KEYSERLING, 1863)	Mediterranean to Central Asia	M, F	6
<b>Eresidae</b>			
<i>Eresus cinnaberinus</i> (OLIVIER, 1789)	Palaearctic	S, R	2, 5
<b>Oecobiidae</b>			
<i>Uroctea durandi</i> (LATREILLE, 1809)	Mediterranean	F, M	2, 3, 5, 6, 9
<b>Uloboridae</b>			
<i>Uloborus walckenaerius</i> LATREILLE, 1806	Palaearctic	F, M	3, 5

Table 1. Continued.

Species	Distribution	Habitats	Locality
<b>Theridiidae</b>			
<i>Achaearanea tepidariorum</i> (C.L. KOCH, 1841)	Cosmopolitan	S, R	9
<i>Crustulina scabripes</i> SIMON, 1881	Mediterranean	S, R	6
<i>Steatoda albomaculata</i> (DE GEER, 1778)	Cosmopolitan	S, R, M	5
<i>Steatoda bipunctata</i> (LINNAEUS, 1758)	Holarctic	S, R	6
<i>Steatoda castanea</i> (CLERCK, 1757)	Palaearctic	S, M	5, 7
<i>Steatoda grossa</i> (C. L. KOCH, 1838)	Cosmopolitan	S, M	7
<i>Steatoda paykulliana</i> (WALCKENAER, 1805)	Europe, Mediterranean to Central Asia	S, R	2, 3, 6, 9
<i>Enoplognatha mordax</i> (THORELL, 1875)	Palaearctic	S, M	5, 7
<b>Linyphiidae</b>			
<i>Erigone atra</i> BLACKWALL, 1833	Holarctic	M, F	4
<i>Erigone dentipalpis</i> (WIDER, 1834)	Holarctic	M, F	5
<i>Frontinellina frutetorum</i> (C.L. KOCH, 1834)	Palaearctic	M, F	5, 6, 8, 9
<i>Lepthyphantes leprosus</i> (OHLERT, 1865)	Holarctic, Chile	M, F	5
<i>Tenuiphantes zimmermanni</i> (BERTKAU, 1890)	Europe, Russia, Turkey	M, F	4
<b>Tetragnathidae</b>			
<i>Tetragnatha extensa</i> (LINNAEUS, 1758)	Holarctic, Madeira	M, F	5, 9
<i>Tetragnatha montana</i> SIMON, 1874	Palaearctic	M, F	4
<b>Araneidae</b>			
<i>Aculepeira ceropegia</i> (WALCKENAER, 1802)	Palaearctic	M, F	3
<i>Agelenatea redii</i> (SCOPOLI, 1763)	Palaearctic	F	5, 9
<i>Araneus diadematus</i> CLERCK, 1757	Holarctic	M, F	1, 2, 4, 7, 9
<i>Araneus marmoreus</i> CLERCK, 1757	Holarctic	M	2
<i>Arainella cucurbitina</i> (CLERCK, 1757)	Palaearctic	M	7, 8
<i>Argiope bruennichi</i> (SCOPOLI, 1772)	Palaearctic	M, F	6
<i>Argiope lobata</i> (PALLAS, 1772)	Old World	M, F	6, 7
<i>Cyclosa conica</i> (PALLAS, 1772)	Holarctic	M, F	6
<i>Hypsosinga pygmaea</i> (SUNDEVALL, 1831)	Holarctic	M	5
<i>Mangora acalypha</i> (WALCKENAER, 1802)	Palaearctic	M, F	3, 5, 6, 9
<i>Neoscona adianta</i> (WALCKENAER, 1802)	Palaearctic	M	3, 5, 6, 7, 9
<i>Araneus sturmi</i> (HAHN, 1831)	Palaearctic	M	2, 6, 7
<i>Hypsosinga albovittata</i> (WESTRING, 1851)	Europe, North Africa, Russia	M	3
<b>Lycosidae</b>			
<i>Arctosa cinerea</i> (FABRICIUS, 1777)	Palaearctic, Congo	M	2, 3, 8
<i>Arctosa perita</i> (LATREILLE, 1799)	Holarctic	M	2, 5, 7
<i>Arctosa personata</i> (L. KOCH, 1872)	Western Mediterranean	M	2, 5, 7

Table 1. Continued.

Species	Distribution	Habitats	Locality
<i>Arctosa fulvolineata</i> (LUCAS, 1846)	West Palearctic	M	7
<i>Geolycosa vultuosa</i> (C.L. KOCH, 1838)	Southeastern Europe to Central Asia	M	6
<i>Pardosa agrestis</i> (WESTRING, 1861)	Palearctic	M, F	8
<i>Pardosa agricola</i> (THORELL, 1856)	Europe to Kazakhstan	M	4
<i>Pardosa amentata</i> (CLERCK, 1757)	Europe, Russia, Turkey	M	2, 3, 5, 6
<i>Pardosa proxima</i> (C.L. KOCH, 1847)	Palearctic, Canary Is., Azores	F	2, 5
<i>Pardosa pullata</i> (CLERCK, 1757)	Europe, Russia, Turkey, Central Asia	M, F	2, 3, 5, 7
<i>Trochosa terricola</i> THORELL, 1856	Holarctic	M, F	9
<i>Lycosa singoriensis</i> (LAXMANN, 1770)	Palearctic	M, F	2, 3
<i>Pardosa hortensis</i> (THORELL, 1872)	Palearctic	M, F	2, 3, 5, 6
<b>Pisauridae</b>			
<i>Pisaura mirabilis</i> (CLERCK, 1758)	Palearctic	M	2, 6, 9
<b>Oxyopidae</b>			
<i>Oxyopes lineatus</i> LATREILLE, 1806	Palearctic	M	3, 6
<i>Oxyopes nigripalpis</i> KULCZYNSKI, 1891	Mediterranean	M	3
<i>Oxyopes heterophthallus</i> (LATREILLE, 1804)	Palearctic	M	2, 9
<i>Oxyopes ramosus</i> (MARTINI, GOEZE, 1778)	Palearctic	M	2
<b>Agelenidae</b>			
<i>Agelena labyrinthica</i> (CLERCK, 1757)	Palearctic	S, M	2, 5
<i>Tegeneria parietina</i> (FOURCROY, 1785)	Europe, North Africa to Central Asia	S, M	6
<b>Dictynidae</b>			
<i>Dictyna latens</i> (FABRICIUS, 1775)	Europe to Central Asia	M	9
<i>Dictyna arundinacea</i> (LINNEAUS, 1758)	Holarctic	M, F	6, 9
<b>Amaurobiidae</b>			
<i>Amaurobius ferox</i> (WALCKENAER, 1860)	Holarctic	M, F	2
<i>Amaurobius fenestralis</i> (STRÖM, 1768)	Europe to Central Asia	M, F	2
<b>Titanoecidae</b>			
<i>Nurscia albomaculata</i> (LUCAS, 1846)	Europe to Central Asia	R	7
<i>Titanoeca schineri</i> L. KOCH, 1872	Palearctic	S, R	6
<b>Miturgidae</b>			
<i>Cheiracanthium erraticum</i> (WALCKENAER, 1802)	Palearctic	M	3
<i>Cheiracanthium punctorium</i> (VILLERS, 1789)	Europe to Central Asia	M	5
<b>Liocranidae</b>			
<i>Agroeca inopina</i> O. P.-CAMBRIDGE, 1886	Europe, Algeria, Turkey	S	2
<b>Zodaridae</b>			
<i>Zodarion germanicum</i> C.L. KOCH, 1837	Europe, Turkey	M	2

Table 1. Continued.

Species	Distribution	Habitats	Locality
<i>Zodarion rubidum</i> SIMON, 1914	Europe, Turkey, USA (introduced)	M	3
<b>Gnaphosidae</b>			
<i>Callilepis nocturna</i> (LINNAEUS, 1758)	Palaearctic	M	6
<i>Drassodes cupreus</i> (BLACKWALL, 1834)	Palaearctic	M	2, 6, 7
<i>Drassodes lapidosus</i> (WALCKENAER, 1802)	Palaearctic	R, M, F	2, 3, 8
<i>Drassodes pubescens</i> (THORELL, 1856)	Palaearctic	S, R	4, 7, 8
<i>Drassodes villosus</i> (THORELL, 1856)	Palaearctic	M	3, 5, 6
<i>Drassyllus praeficus</i> (L. KOCH, 1866)	Europe to Central Asia	R	4, 5
<i>Drassyllus pusillus</i> (C.L. KOCH, 1833)	Palaearctic	M, F	8
<i>Gnaphosa lucifuga</i> (WALCKENAER, 1802)	Palaearctic	S, R	6
<i>Gnaphosa lugubris</i> (C.L. KOCH, 1839)	Europe to Central Asia	S, R	6
<i>Gnaphosa montana</i> (L. KOCH, 1866)	Palaearctic	F	4
<i>Gnaphosa opaca</i> HERMAN, 1879	Europe to Central Asia	R	4
<i>Haplodrassus dalmatensis</i> (L. KOCH, 1866)	Palaearctic	S, R	8
<i>Haplodrassus signifer</i> (C.L. KOCH, 1839)	Holarctic	S, R	5, 6, 7
<i>Haplodrassus umbratilis</i> (L. KOCH, 1866)	Europe to Kazakhstan	S, R	2, 6, 8, 9
<i>Micaria formicaria</i> (SUNDEVALL, 1831)	Palaearctic	F	7
<i>Micaria rossica</i> THORELL, 1875	Holarctic	F	2
<i>Nomisi aussereri</i> (L. KOCH, 1872)	Palaearctic	F	6
<i>Nomisia exornata</i> (C.L. KOCH, 1839)	Europe to Central Asia	M, F	6, 7, 8, 9
<i>Nomisia ripariensis</i> (O.P.-CAMBRIDGE, 1872)	Greece, Azerbaijan, Turkey	F	7
<i>Zelotes caucasicus</i> (L. KOCH, 1866)	Europe to Central Asia	R	6, 7
<i>Zelotes electus</i> (C.L. KOCH, 1839)	Europe to Central Asia	S, R	2
<i>Zelotes latreillei</i> (SIMON, 1878)	Europe, Azerbaijan, Turkey	M, F	9
<i>Zelotes longipes</i> (L. KOCH, 1866)	Palaearctic	R, F	2
<i>Zelotes puritanus</i> CHAMBERLIN, 1922	Holarctic	R, F	6
<b>Sparassidae</b>			
<i>Micrommata virescens</i> (CLERCK, 1757)	Palaearctic	M	3
<b>Philodromidae</b>			
<i>Paratibellus oblongiusculus</i> (LUCAS, 1846)	Europe to Central Asia	M, F	6
<i>Philodromus aureolus</i> (CLERCK, 1757)	Palaearctic	M, F	6, 7, 8
<i>Philodromus praedatus</i> O.P.-CAMBRIDGE, 1871	Europe, Russia, Turkey	M	7
<i>Thanatus formicinus</i> (CLERCK, 1757)	Holarctic	M, F	4, 5, 6
<i>Thanatus vulgaris</i> SIMON, 1870	Holarctic	M, F	2, 3, 6
<i>Tibellus oblongus</i> (WALCKENAER, 1802)	Holarctic	M, F	5, 8
<b>Thomisidae</b>			
<i>Heriaeus graminicola</i> (DOLESCHALL, 1852)	Europe to Central Asia	M	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7

Table 1. Continued.

Species	Distribution	Habitats	Locality
<i>Heriaeus melloteei</i> SIMON, 1886	Palaearctic	M	4, 6, 8, 9
<i>Misumena vatia</i> (CLERCK, 1757)	Holarctic	M	3, 4, 6
<i>Ozyptila claveata</i> (WALCKENAER, 1837)	Palaearctic	M, F	4
<i>Ozyptila praticola</i> (C.L. KOCH, 1837)	Holarctic	M, F	5
<i>Ozyptila simplex</i> (O.P.-CAMBRIDGE, 1862)	Palaearctic	M, F	6
<i>Pisitus truncatus</i> (PALLAS, 1772)	Palaearctic	M	2, 3, 6, 7
<i>Runcinia grammica</i> (C.L. KOCH, 1837)	Palaearctic, St. Helena, South Africa	M	5, 7, 8, 9
<i>Synema globosum</i> (FABRICIUS, 1775)	Palaearctic	M	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7
<i>Thomisus onustus</i> WALCKENAER, 1805	Palaearctic	M	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
<i>Xysticus bifasciatus</i> C.L. KOCH 1837	Palaearctic	S, M	5
<i>Xysticus cristatus</i> (CLERCK, 1757)	Palaearctic	M, F	2, 3, 5, 6
<i>Xysticus ferrugineus</i> MENGE, 1876	Palaearctic	M, F	3
<i>Xysticus kempeleni</i> THORELL, 1872	Europe to Central Asia	R, M	5
<i>Xysticus kochi</i> THORELL, 1872	Europe, Mediterranean to Central Asia	M	1, 3, 5, 6
<i>Xysticus lanio</i> C.L. KOCH	Palaearctic	M, F	2, 3, 5, 6
<i>Xysticus lineatus</i> (WESTRING, 1851)	Palaearctic	M, F	5
<i>Xysticus ninnii</i> THORELL, 1872	Palaearctic	S, F	5, 6
<i>Xysticus robustus</i> (HAHN, 1832)	Europe to Central Asia	M	4, 6
<i>Xysticus sabulosus</i> (HAHN, 1832)	Palaearctic	M, F	4, 5
<i>Xysticus striatipies</i> L. KOCH, 1870	Palaearctic	M	6, 7
<i>Xysticus ulmi</i> (HAHN, 1831)	Palaearctic	M	5, 6
<i>Xysticus viduus</i> KULCZYNSKI, 1898	Palaearctic	M, F	4
<b>Salticidae</b>			
<i>Evarcha arcuata</i> (CLERCK, 1757)	Palaearctic	M	5
<i>Evarcha falcata</i> (CLERCK, 1757)	Palaearctic	M	5
<i>Habrocestum latifasciatum</i> (SIMON, 1868)	Eastern Mediterranean	M	6, 9
<i>Heliophanus aeneus</i> (HAHN, 1832)	Palaearctic	M	3
<i>Heliophanus auratus</i> C.L. KOCH, 1835	Palaearctic	M	6, 7
<i>Heliophanus flavipes</i> HAHN, 1832	Palaearctic	M	9
<i>Heliophanus lineiventris</i> SIMON, 1868	Palaearctic	S, M	1, 2
<i>Heliophanus mordax</i> (O.P.-CAMBRIDGE, 1872)	Greece to Central Asia	M	2, 3, 9
<i>Philaeus chrysops</i> (PODA, 1761)	Palaearctic	R, M	1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9
<i>Phlegra fasciata</i> (HAHN, 1826)	Palaearctic	M	6
<i>Plexippoides gestroi</i> DALMAS, 1920	Eastern Mediterranean	M	4

The zoogeographic classification of the spiders has been made on the basis of literature data reflecting their current distribution (PLATNICK 2006) (Fig. 2). Thus, our analysis shows that species with Palearctic distribution, represented on the studied territory by 67 species, are most numerous. Among them common species are: *Heliophanus flavipes*, *Runcinia grammica*, *Haplodrassus umbratilis*, *Oxyopes lineatus* and *Mangora acalypha*. The European-Central Asian chorotype is represented by 27 species, of them *Xysticus kempeleni*, *Nomisia exornata* and *Pardosa agricola* being most typical for the concerned region. The following data represent the species number of each zoogeographic category (in brackets are the most numerous species): Holarctic - 23 (*Tibellus oblongus*, *Haplodrassus signifer* and *Trochosa terricola*); Mediterranean - 10 (*Palpimanus gibbulus* and *Crustulina scabripes*); Cosmopolitan - 6; European-Asia Minor - 4, Middle East-European - 2, Old World - 1 and Turkish endemics - 1.

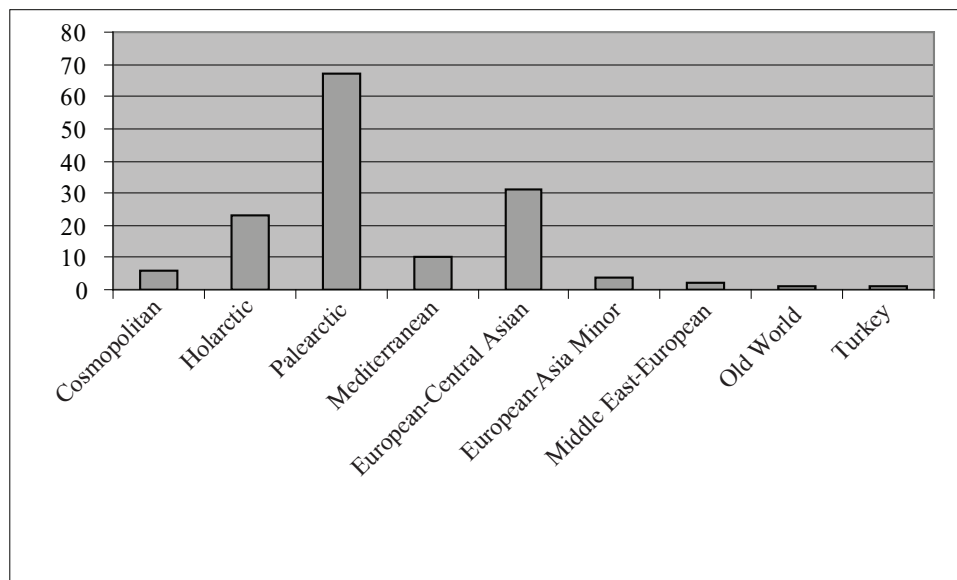


Fig. 2. Relative share of the defined chorotypes of spiders found in the Gülek Pass.

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## Аранеофауната на прохода Гюлек (Турция) и неговите околности (Araneae)

A. Topçu, X. Демир, О. Сейяр, Т. Тюркеш

### (Резюме)

В статията се съобщават 140 вида паяци от 70 рода и 28 семейства, установени в района на прохода Гюлек, намиращ се в планината Торос (Югоизточна Турция). Пет вида – *Eoplognatha mordax* (THORELL, 1875), *Araneus sturmi* (HAHN, 1831), *Hypsosinga albiovittata* (WESTRING, 1851), *Lycosa singoriensis* (LAXMANN, 1770) и *Pardosa hortensis* (THORELL, 1872), са нови за фауната на Турция. Представени са данни за зоогеографската принадлежност и конкретните местообитанията на всеки един от установените видове.

