

Pardosa saltans Töpfer-Hofmann, 2000 (Araneae: Lycosidae) a certain species for the Romanian fauna

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Abstract.

In this paper we present our findings that confirm the existence of *Pardosa saltans* Töpfer-Hofmann 2000 in the Romanian arachnofauna. Also the actual distribution map of the species in Romania is given.

Key words: *Pardosa saltans*, Romania.

Introduction

Pardosa saltans is a cryptic species from the *lugubris* group, which has in Europe six very similar species in general appearance and in shape of the genitalia: *Pardosa lugubris* (Walckenaer, 1802), *Pardosa alacris* (C.L. Koch, 1833), *Pardosa baehrorum* Kronstedt, 1999, *Pardosa pertinax* von Helversen, 2000, *Pardosa saltans* Töpfer-Hofmann, 2000, *Pardosa caucasica* Ovtsharenko, 1979 (TÖPFER-HOFMANN & ALL. 2000).

According to WEISS & URÁK checklist (from 2000), in Romania are present three species: *Pardosa lugubris*, *Pardosa alacris*, *Pardosa baehrorum*. *Pardosa lugubris* is a very common species on the forest floor, usually in sunny places (FUHN, I. E., NICULESCU –BURLACU F. 1971). *Pardosa alacris* is also widespread being cited in many faunistical studies: URÁK (1999), DUMA (2006), to mention just a few. It usually lives in the same habitats as *Pardosa lugubris* but appears to be more restricted to *Quercus* and *Fagus* forests. *Pardosa baehrorum* was captured by

WEISS from riparian forests of Transilvania and the material is stored at the National Brukenthal Museum from Sibiu (unpublished data).

In 2005 Costică Adam from Museum of Natural History „Grigore Antipa” found in the Comana forest near București, three wolf-spider females, which he identified as *Pardosa saltans*. However according to TÖPFER-HOFMANN & all. species of the *lugubris* group could be determined for sure only by the males.

We found for the first time two males of *Pardosa saltans* in Romania, near Timișoara.

Materials and methods

The specimens were collected by active searching from the forest floor in springs of 2005 and 2007. The material was preserved in 70% ethylic alcohol. In order to identify the spiders we used TÖPFER-HOFMANN's article. The material is now stored at the Museum of Natural History “Grigore Antipa” and at Department of Biology, Faculty of



Fig. 1. The collection places of *Pardosa saltans* in the South-Western Romania.

Results

On the 1st of May 2005 we have found one adult male at Bistra forest (45°46'06"N 21°20'15"E) and on the 27th of March 2007 another one at Pădurea Verde forest (45°47'02"N 21°15'49"E) (geographical coordinates were obtained with the help of Google Earth program) (fig 1).

Both specimens were captured in the same habitat: Riparian oak forest with rich under storey.

Conclusions

Due to the fact that both males have the general appearance and the palps according to the description made by Töpfer-Hofmann & all. and also because the males are reliable in determination, we infer that *Pardosa saltans* is a certain species for the Romanian arachnofauna.

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