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A Record of Zodarion turcicum Wunderlich from Europe with Description of its Unknown Male

(Arachnida, Araneae, Zodariidae)

by

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Synopsis: Zodarion turcicum WUNDERLICH, previously known only from the type locality in the Asian part of Turkey (around Bolu), has been collected from two localities in Bulgaria. Its male is described as new to science. The taxonomic relationships and zoogeography of the species are briefly discussed.

Description: Zodarion turcicum WUNDERLICH (Figs. 1, 2)

Zodarion turcicum WUNDERLICH, 1980 (n. sp., Q)

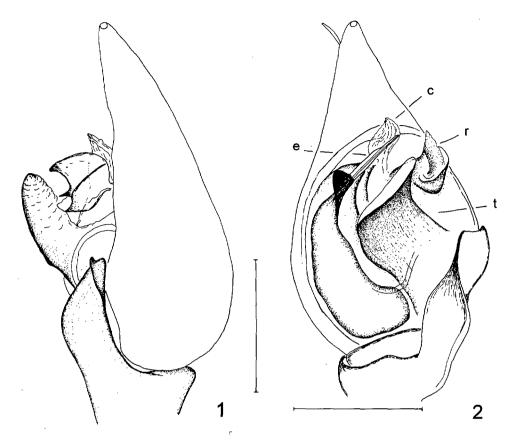
d (measurements in mm): Total length 4.2; Cephalothorax length 1.95, width 1.5; Sternum length 1.12, width 0.9; Abdomen length 2.17; Femur I length 1.6. Cephalothorax dark brown. Sternum dark brown to black. Abdomen dorsally with violet sheen; with a lateral white area on each side larger than those illustrated by WUNDERLICH (1980), and a white spot above the spinners. Legs: Coxae I and II brown with yellow stripes. Coxae III and IV yellowish. Femora I-IV brown. Patellae, tibiae, metatarsi and tarsi yellowish. Spines on femur I: 2-1-1-1. Palps: Tibial apophysis apically typically twisted, with an oblique groove. Tegular apophysis very prominent in anteroventral direction. Retinaculum semi-lunar, with strong tooth. Embolus long and slender, with typical basal lobe.

General distribution: Known only from Turkey and Bulgaria.

Discussion: Z. turcicum belongs to the Z. germanicum species-group. It is related to Z. musarum BRIGNOLI. Their tibial apophyses are almost identical, but there are some differences in the bulbus: base of embolus of Z. turcicum with a basal tubercle larger than in Z. musarum, reticulum and tibial apophysis with different shape in both species. Although the data about the general distribution of this species are sparse, in zoogeographical respects it may belong to the Euxinean faunistic element of the Bulgarian fauna. According to GRUEV (in GRUEV & KUZMANOV 1994) the members of this faunistic element inhabit the East and South (i.e. Asian) coasts of the Black sea and some of them, which are most widespread, also occur in northern parts of Asia minor, eastern parts of Balkan Peninsula, and in South Roumania and western Caucasus. The specimens were collected in forest areas near the Black sea, so its habitat also corresponds with those given by GRUEV for other species in this faunistic element.

Material and locality: Bulgaria: Strandza mountain, cottage Isperetz, 24.05.1993, 1 d 1 Q leg. K. Dzambazov; Albena, 27.05.1994, 1 d leg. D. Deltshev. 1 d is kept in my collection. 1 d 1 Q are in Dr. Jörg Wunderlich's private collection.

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Figs. 1 - 2: Zodarion turcicum WUNDERLICH. of palp, external view (1), ventral view (2). e Embolus, c Conductor, r Retinaculum, t Tegular apophysis. — Scale line: 0.3 mm.

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Literature:

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