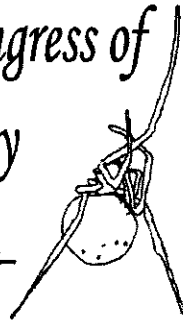


*26th European Congress of
Arachnology*



Israel 2011



PROGRAM & ABSTRACTS

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**BEN-GURION UNIVERSITY OF THE NEGEV
BLAUSTEIN INSTITUTES FOR DESERT RESEARCH
SEDE BOQER CAMPUS, ISRAEL**

Welcome to the **26th European Congress of Arachnology**. The Congress is hosted by the Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research, on the Sede Boqer Campus of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev at Midreshet Ben-Gurion.

We hope you enjoy the Congress!

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UNDESCRIBED SPECIES OF *ALOPECOSA* SIMON, 1885 (ARANEAE, LYCOSIDAE) FROM SOUTH UKRAINE

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The genus *Alopecosa* Simon, 1885, contains 160 species, mostly from the Palaearctic. 18 species are known from Ukraine, of them 16 are occurring in south Ukraine. They belong to five species groups, namely *fabrilis*, *pulverulenta*, *cursor*, *sulzeri* and *striatipes*. While studying lycosids from south Ukraine we found one undescribed species belonging to the *striatipes* species group. These group encompasses 7 species in Central Europe: *A. beckeri* (Thorell, 1875), *A. cronebergi* (Thorell, 1875), *A. edax* (Thorell, 1875), *A. solitaria* (Herman, 1876), *A. mariae* (Dahl, 1908), *A. schmidtii* (Hahn, 1835), *A. striatipes* (C. L. Koch, 1839) and *A. taeniopus* (Kulczynski, 1895). All these species occur in Ukraine also, except *A. edax*.

Species of *striatipes* group differs by: 1) shape of tegular apophysis; 2) shape of embolic division; 3) shape of epigynal margins and 4) number of anterior epigynal pockets (one or two). General appearance: habitus and pattern of abdomen and carapace can be used as additional characters for species separation.

The undescribed species is most similar to *A. beckeri* and *A. taeniopus*. Females of this species differ by having two anterior epigynal pockets, other species have only one anterior epigynal pocket. Males can be distinguished by the shape of tegular apophysis. Adult specimens of new species were collected by hand picking and by pitfall traps during November – December in steppe, semi-desert steppe and in saline lands in Zaporizhzhya and Kherson Areas and in the Crimean Peninsula. We suppose that undescribed species ranging across northern coastal plains of the Sea of Azov.