

New records of little-known species of *Xysticus* C. L. Koch, 1835 in Turkey

(Araneae: Thomisidae)

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Abstract. *Xysticus edax* (O. P.-Cambridge, 1872), *X. caperatus* Simon, 1875, and *X. kaznakovi* Utochkin, 1968 are recorded for the first time from Turkey. The characteristic features and SEM photographs of the male palpal organs of these species are given. These records increase the number of species of the genus *Xysticus* found in Turkey to 40.

Key words. *Xysticus*, new records, Thomisidae, Turkey.

The spider genus *Xysticus* C. L. Koch, 1835, is the most species-rich thomisid genus, with 360 species being listed in the latest version (9.0) of the world spider catalogue (PLATNICK 2008). 37 species are known to belong to the Turkish fauna (TOPCU et al. 2005, LOGUNOV & DEMIR 2006, LOGUNOV 2006, DEMIR et al. 2006, 2008a-b). However, most previous works deal only with the Central Anatolian, Black Sea, and Mediterranean regions (central parts) of Turkey. We report here three species for the first time from Turkey. These records increase the number of Turkish species of the genus *Xysticus* to 40.

Most of the specimens were collected in different parts of Turkey by pitfall trapping, hand collecting and the sweeping of plants. The specimens were preserved in 70% ethanol. Male palps were mounted using a double-sided tape on the SEM stubs, coated with gold in a Polaron SC 502 Sputter Coater, and examined with a JOEL JSM 5600 Scanning Electron microscope at 15 kw. The present study is based on material deposited in the collections of the Arachnology Museum of Niğde University (NUAM). For identification of these species, the papers by MARUSIK & LOGUNOV (1990), SIMON (1932), and LEVY (1976) were consulted. The measurements given below are in millimetres.

Xysticus edax (O. P.-Cambridge, 1872) (Figs 1-2)

Material: 1 ♂, 2.v.2007, Aşağı Arıcaklı village, Bahçe, Osmaniye prov. (37°11'N, 36°36'E), 375 m, coll. H. DEMİR; 1 ♂, 1.v.2007, Yarpuz village, Osmaniye prov. (37°03'N, 36°25'E), 903 m, coll. H. DEMİR; 1 ♂, 1.v.2007, Toprakkale castle, Osmaniye prov. (37°03'N, 36°08'E), 70 m, coll. H. DEMİR; 1 ♂, 22.v.2007, Yaylalı village, Bahçe, Osmaniye prov. (37°17'N, 36°37'E), 1086 m, coll. H. DEMİR; 1 ♂, 3.v.2007, Çakaldere village, Polateli, Kilis prov. (36°47'N, 37°05'E), 652 m, coll. H. DEMİR; 1 ♂, 3.v.2007, Bayramlı village, Oğuzeli, Kilis prov. (36°46'N, 37°17'E), 593 m, coll. H. DEMİR; 1 ♂, 3.v.2007, Küpeli village, Oğuzeli, Kilis prov. (36°44'N, 37°14'E), 609 m, coll. H. DEMİR; 3 ♂, 20.v.2007, Kocakonak village, Göksun, Kahramanmaraş prov. (38°12'N, 36°25'E), 1604 m, coll. H. DEMİR; 4 ♂, 4.v.2007, Isos ruins, Erzin, Hatay prov. (36°58'N, 36°07'E), 47 m, coll. H. DEMİR; 1 ♂, 4.v.2007, Karakese village, Dört Yol, Hatay prov. (36°49'N, 36°15'E), 221 m, coll. H. DEMİR.