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A survey of East Palaearctic Lycosidae (Araneae). 10. Three new *Pardosa* species from the mountains of Central Asia

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Abstract

Three new species of *Pardosa*, *P. svatoni* sp. n. (♂♀, SE Kazakhstan), *P. fengi* sp. n. (♂♀, Central Xinjiang) and *P. lii* sp. n. (♂♀, Central Xinjiang) are described and illustrated. The two former species cannot be placed in any species group. *Pardosa lii* sp. n. belongs to the *P. wagleri* species group. It is compared with *P. italica* Tongiorgi, 1966, whose embolic division has not previously been illustrated.

Key words: wolf spider, *Pardosa*, new species, Central Asia

Introduction

Pardosa C. L. Koch, 1847 is the largest genus of lycosid spiders with 557 currently valid species names (Platnick 2013) and third largest among all spider genera. Only *Theridion* Walckenaer, 1805 (578 species) and *Araneus* Clerck, 1757 (661) have more species currently assigned to them. Most *Pardosa* species are restricted to the Holarctic and Southeast Asia. The genus has been studied irregularly through its range and has been subject for recent revisions or reviews in the Nearctic (Dondale & Redner 1990; Vogel 2004), Europe (Tongiorgi 1966a, b; Nentwig *et al.* 2013) and Japan (Tanaka 2009). It is very likely that many species described in *Pardosa* outside of the Holarctic and Southeast Asia are misplaced.

The *Pardosa* in some regions remain poorly studied. One such region is Central Asia, an area from the Caspian Sea to Mongolia. Only one species group, the *P. monticola* group, has been recently revised in Central Asia (Marusik & Fritzen 2009; Marusik *et al.* 2012; Ballarin *et al.* 2012). The *Pardosa* of only two parts of Central Asia have been relatively well studied due to the monograph on the spiders of Xinjiang (Hu & Wu 1989) and the taxonomic-faunistic work on spiders of northeastern Kazakhstan (Eskov & Marusik 1995). Currently about 50 *Pardosa* species are known in Central Asia (Mikhailov 1997 and unpublished data) and 23 in Xinjiang (Song *et al.* 1999; Marusik & Fritzen 2009). Eight species in Xinjiang are endemic to the province. While studying spiders of Xinjiang and neighboring Kazakhstan we found three species new to science, which are described in this paper.

Material and methods

Photographs were taken in dishes of different sizes with paraffin at the bottom. Specimens were photographed using an Olympus Camedia E-520 camera attached to an Olympus SZX16 stereomicroscope at the Zoological Museum, University of Turku. SEM microphotographs were made with a JEOL JSM-5200 in the Zoological Museum, University of Turku. Digital images were prepared using “CombineZP” image stacking software (<http://>