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A survey of East Palaearctic Lycosidae (Araneae). 11. Two new genera from the *Acantholycosa* complex

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Abstract

Two new genera of wolf spiders belonging to Pardosinae, *Gulocosa* **gen. n.** and *Melecosa* **gen. n.**, are erected to accommodate *Gulocosa eskovi* **sp. n.** (♂ ♀, Khabarovsk Province, Russia) and *Sibirocosa alpina* Marusik, Azarkina & Koponen, 2004, respectively. A new combination was also established: *Melecosa alpina* (Marusik, Azarkina & Koponen, 2004) **comb. n.** (ex. *Sibirocosa*). Polytomous and dichotomous keys are provided for the Palearctic Pardosinae genera.

Key words: Pardosinae, wolf spider, Central Asia, Far East Asia, new species

Introduction

Originally, *Acantholycosa* was proposed for three species of European *Pardosa* that have more than three pairs of ventral tibial spines on leg I (Dahl 1908). Until very recently, this genus included 14 species and one subspecies (Marusik *et al.* 2004). Revision of the genus (Marusik *et al.* 2004) revealed that *Acantholycosa* is not monophyletic and three new genera were described for species placed in this genus or as new species: *Mongolicosa* Marusik, Azarkina & Koponen, 2004, *Pyrenecosa* Marusik, Azarkina & Koponen, 2004 and *Sibirocosa* Marusik, Azarkina & Koponen, 2004. The number of species in the *Acantholycosa* complex increased from 14 to 40. Most of the species in these genera have rather limited ranges and comprise three hot spots of diversity in the Palaearctic: the Pyrenees, three endemic species in one genus; the Altay-Sayan Mountain system, over 20 endemic species; the Sikhote Alin' Mountain Range in the Far East, three endemic species. Subsequent reviews of Far Eastern species (Marusik & Omelko 2011; Omelko & Marusik 2013) increased the species number of *Acantholycosa* and “related” genera to 44. This recent research makes the Far East the second largest diversity hotspot, with 10 species, 7 of which are endemic.

A study of new material collected in 2013 in the centre of the Sikhote Alin' Mountain Range in the Far East revealed an additional species belonging to the *Acantholycosa* complex. Like other members of this complex, this species has more than three pairs of ventral tibial spines on leg I, long legs, and a similar pattern, but the copulatory organs in both females and males precludes placement in any described genus. Thus, we decided to describe a new genus and new species for this material and also erected a new genus for *Sibirocosa alpina* Marusik, Azarkina & Koponen, 2004 whose placement in *Sibirocosa* was doubted by Marusik *et al.* (2004, 2007) and Omelko & Marusik (2013). Along with descriptions of new genera, we provide a dichotomous key to the *Acantholycosa* complex genera and a polytomous key for the Palaearctic Pardosinae genera.