

First records of the epigeic spider *Zelotes mundus* (Araneae: Gnaphosidae) in Slovakia

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Zelotes mundus (Kulczynski, 1897) was recorded in Slovakia only after its findings in some Central European countries (MILASOWSZKY & ZULKA, 1994; SAMU et al., 1996; ZULKA et al., 1997; BAUCHHENSSE et al., 1997). The species has also been recorded on the Balkan Peninsula, Hungary and Romania (STOJICEVIC, 1929; KOLOSVARY, 1932; DRENSKY, 1936; NIKOLIC, 1981; WEISS & MARCU, 1979; LOKSA, 1981).

Zelotes mundus was collected by using pitfall formaldehyde traps at nickel leach dumps near the town of Sereď, where the spider fauna was studied at four different plots (KRAJČA & KRUMPÁLOVÁ, 1998; KRAJČA, 1998).

Material examined: SW Slovakia, Sereď (7772 – grid reference number of the Databank of Slovak Fauna, 48°17' N, 17°44' E). **Plot 1** – an extensive dump without herb layer, with clumps of prevailing weed species (*Carduus acanthoides*, *Centaurea stoebes rhenana* and *Salsola kali*) and mosses (*Ceratodon purpureus*); 26.VII.1997, 2 ♂♂; 31.VIII.1997, 1 ♂; 6.X.1997, 1 ♀; all leg et det. A. Krajča et Z. Krumpálová, coll. A. Krajča, rev. J. Buchar. **Plot 2** – a recultivated dump with herb layer, in some places pines *Pinus sylvestris* have been planted, the grass cover has spread to the non-vegetated part; 26.VII.1997, 15 ♂♂, 6 ♀♀; 31.VIII.1997, 6 ♂♂, 9 ♀♀; 31.VII.1998, 4 ♂♂; all leg et det. A. Krajča et Z. Krumpálová, coll. A. Krajča, rev. J. Buchar. **Plot 3** – remains of a meadow with vegetation predominant by *Cardaria draba*, *Reseda lutea*, *Artemisia vulgaris*, *Agropyrum repens*, *Carduus acan-*

thoides, *Bromus erectus* and *Arrhenatherum elatius* (Banášová, 1993); 26.VII.1997, 2 ♂♂; leg et det. A. Krajča et Z. Krumpálová, coll. A. Krajča, rev. J. Buchar. **Plot 4** – oat field (*Avena sativa*) close to the recultivated dump; 30.V.1998, 2 ♂♂; leg et det. A. Krajča et Z. Krumpálová, coll. A. Krajča, rev. J. Buchar.

Remarks: *Zelotes mundus* occurs in sandy habitats and agrocoenoses of the Pannonian area and in the Danube Delta lowlands (BAUCHHENSSE et al., 1997), in the Hungarian agricultural landscape (SAMU & SZINETÁR, 2002) and in winter wheat fields (TÓTH & KISS, 1999). In Slovakia, the species was found in an oat field and at dumps, both representing xerothermic habitats. All records of this spider, including those from Hungary, Romania and Austria, are dated from summer months. In Slovakia, the dominant species in spider communities with the presence of *Z. mundus* were similar to those in Hungary and the Danube Delta – *Oedothorax apicatus* (Blackwall, 1850), *Pardosa agrestis* (Westring, 1861), *Silometopus reussi* (Thorell, 1871), *Pachygnatha degeeri* Sundevall, 1830, *Tenuiphantes tenuis* (Blackwall, 1852), *Meioneta rurestris* (C.L. Koch, 1836) and *Erigone dentipalpis* (Wider, 1834).

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