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**Рідкісні види павуків (Araneae) охоронних степових територій  
Харківської області (Україна)  
Н.Ю.Полчанінова**

На теперішній час для Харківської області відомо 426 видів павуків. З них 32 види можуть вважатися рідкісними та вразливими. У НПП «Дворічанський» знайдено 11 рідкісних видів павуків, у РЛП «Великобурлуцький степ» – 13 видів, вісім видів є спільними для обох парків. *Pardosa maisa*, *Dipoena coracina* та *Talavera aperta* в Україні відомі не більш ніж з двох або трьох локалітетів, а для *Lathys heterophthalma*, *Trachyzelotes lyonneti*, *Russocampus polchaninovae* та *Euryopis laeta* це є єдина достовірна знахідка. Павуки *Russocampus polchaninovae* й *Altella hungarica* є дуже рідкісними, вони були знайдені в Європі тільки в чотирьох та семи локалітетах відповідно. *Titanoeca veteranica* й *Altella hungarica* вперше зареєстровані в Харківській області. Північна межа географічних ареалів *Civizelotes pygmaeus*, *Gnaphosa dolosa*, *Xysticus marmoratus*, *X. mongolicus* та південна межа *Gnaphosa lugubris* проходять через Харківську область. Живучи на межі ареалу, такі види переходять до стенотопності й трапляються лише в степах або на сухих луках. *Xycticus mongolicus* заселяє піщані й крейдяні степи з розрідженою рослинністю. *Gnaphosa taurica* має високу екологічну пластичність у степовій зоні, але в лісостепу вона обмежена відслоненнями крейди й вапняку. *Gnaphosa lugubris*, *G. licenti*, *Zora pardalis* і *Eresus kollari* були численними в наших зборах, тоді як 19 видів знайдені не більш ніж у трьох екземплярах. *G. taurica* та *E. kollari* переважали на крейдяних схилах, *G. licenti* на крейді та на верхній частині південного схилу без випасу, *G. lugubris* домінувала на всіх схилах у Великобурлуцькому степу, а *Z. pardalis* обирала днища балок без випасу. *Altella hungarica*, *Euryopis laeta*, *Civizelotes pygmaeus* і *Drassyllus vinealis*, хоча й у невеликій кількості, траплялися щорічно в тому ж самому біотопі, що може свідчити про стабільність їхніх популяцій. Незважаючи на високу чисельність, види з вузькою біотопічною приуроченістю стають вразливими під загрозою антропогенної трансформації їхніх оселищ. Єдиний спосіб зберегти їх – запобігти знищенню природних місцеперебувань.

**Ключові слова:** павуки, рідкісні види, біотопічний розподіл, природоохоронні території, Дворічанський парк, Великобурлуцький степ, Харківська область.

**Rare spider species (Araneae) of protected steppe areas of the Kharkiv  
Region (Ukraine)  
N.Yu.Polchaninova**

A total of 426 spider species is known in the fauna of the Kharkiv Region. Of these, 32 species may be considered rare and/or vulnerable. The largest steppe areas in the Kharkiv Region are protected in the National Nature Park "Dvorichanskyi" and the Regional Landscape Park "Velykoburlutskiyi Steppe". The former hosts 11 rare spider species, the latter 13 species, and eight species occur in both Parks. For the species *Lathys heterophthalma*, *Trachyzelotes lyonneti*, *Russocampus polchaninovae*, and *Euryopis laeta* it is the only valid record from Ukraine; for *Pardosa maisa*, *Dipoena coracina*, and *Talavera aperta*, maximum two or three localities are known. *Titanoeca veteranica* and *Altella hungarica* are the new records to the Kharkiv Region. Two species are extremely rare, *Altella hungarica* has been found in only seven localities in Europe, and *Russocampus polchaninovae* in four localities. Northern boundaries of the geographic ranges of *Civizelotes pygmaeus*, *Gnaphosa dolosa*, *Xysticus marmoratus*, *X. mongolicus*, and the southern boundary of *Gnaphosa lugubris* run through the Kharkiv Region. On the edges of their areas, these species become habitat specialists and occur only in steppes and/or dry meadows. *Xycticus mongolicus* inhabits sandy and chalky steppes with sparse vegetation. *Gnaphosa taurica* has high ecological plasticity in the steppe zone, while in the forest-steppe, it is limited with chalk and limestone outcrops. Some species like *Gnaphosa lugubris*, *G. licenti*, *G. taurica*, *Zora pardalis* and *Eresus kollari*, were abundant in our samplings while 19 species were found as singletons. *G. taurica*, and *E. kollari* preferred chalky slopes, *G. licenti* both chalky slopes and top of a southern ungrazed slope, *G. lugubris* dominated on all slopes in the Velykoburlutskiyi Steppe, while *Z. pardalis* was the most abundant in ungrazed gully bottoms in both Parks. Being not numerous, *Altella hungarica*, *Euryopis laeta*, *Civizelotes pygmaeus* and *Drassyllus vinealis* occurred annually in the same habitats that may indicate stability of their populations. Given their habitat specificity, even numerous species became vulnerable under the threat of anthropogenic transformation of natural ecosystems. The only way to protect them is to preserve their habitats.

**Key words:** spiders, vulnerable species, habitat distribution, conservation areas, Dvorichanskyi Park, Velykoburlutskiyi Steppe, Kharkiv Region.

## Редкие виды пауков (Araneae) охраняемых степных территорий Харьковской области (Украина) Н.Ю.Полчанинова

В настоящее время для Харьковской области известно 426 видов пауков. Из них 32 вида могут считаться редкими и уязвимыми. В НПП «Двуречанский» найдено 11 редких видов пауков, в РЛП «Великобурлукская степь» – 13 видов, восемь редких видов являются общими для обоих парков. *Pardosa maisa*, *Dipoena coracina* и *Talavera aperta* в Украине известны не более чем из двух или трех локалитетов, для *Lathys heterophthalma*, *Trachyzelotes lyonneti*, *Russocampus polchaninovae* и *Euryopis laeta* это единственная достоверная находка. Пауки *Russocampus polchaninovae* и *Altella hungarica* относятся к очень редким видам, они были найдены в Европе, соответственно в четырех и семи локалитетах. *Titanoeca veteranica* и *Altella hungarica* впервые зарегистрированы в Харьковской области. Северная граница географических ареалов *Civizelotes pygmaeus*, *Gnaphosa dolosa*, *Xysticus marmoratus*, *X. mongolicus* и южная граница *Gnaphosa lugubris* проходят по Харьковской области. На границе ареала эти виды переходят к стенотопности и встречаются только в степях или на сухих лугах. Так, *Xysticus mongolicus* населяет песчаные и меловые степи с разреженной растительностью. *Gnaphosa taurica* имеет высокую экологическую пластичность в степной зоне, а в лесостепной приурочена только к меловым и известняковым обнажениям. Такие виды, как *Gnaphosa lugubris*, *G. licenti*, *Zora pardalis* и *Eresus kollari* были многочисленными в наших сборах, тогда как 19 видов найдены не более чем в трех экземплярах. *G. taurica* и *E. kollari* предпочитали меловые склоны, *G. licenti* – мел и вершину южного склона невыпасаемой балки, *G. lugubris* доминировала на всех склонах в Великобурлукской степи, а *Z. pardalis* выбирала дно балок без выпаса. *Altella hungarica*, *Euryopis laeta*, *Civizelotes pygmaeus* и *Drassyllus vinealis*, хотя и в небольшом количестве, встречались ежегодно в одном и том же биотопе, что может свидетельствовать о стабильности их популяций. Несмотря на высокую численность, виды с узкой биотопической приуроченностью становятся уязвимыми в случае антропогенной трансформации природных экосистем. Единственный способ сохранить их – это предотвратить уничтожение их естественных биотопов.

**Ключевые слова:** пауки, редкие виды, биотопическое распределение, охраняемые природные территории, Двуречанский парк, Великобурлукская степь, Харьковская область.

### Introduction

To date, the list of spiders of the Kharkiv Region accounts for 426 species. The material was collected in 78 localities, including seven conservation areas (Polchaninova, Prokopenko, 2017, 2019).

The largest steppe habitats in the Kharkiv Region are protected in the National Nature Park (NNP) "Dvorichanskyi" and in the Regional Landscape Park (RLP) "Velykoburlutskyi Steppe". Arachnological research in the Velykoburlutskyi steppe was launched in 2003. Since that time, 183 spider species have been recorded, and an ecological study of the spiders of pasture ecosystems has been conducted (Polchaninova et al., 2016). The vicinity of Dvorichna has been under investigation since 2008, prior to the Park establishment. Currently, 147 spider species are known from this territory.

In the course of our study, a bulk of rare spider species has been recorded from the Parks; three species are listed in the Red Data Book of Kharkiv Region (Red Data Book..., 2013). The aim of the present paper is to summarize obtained data and to make a list of threatened species.

### Material and methods

The studied Parks are located in the east of the Kharkiv Region, in Dvorichna and Velykyi Burluk districts. The NNP "Dvorichanskyi" hosts a variety of dry grasslands on the chalky slopes, the RLP "Velykoburlutskyi Steppe" presents a net of gullies covered with steppe and meadow vegetation. Spiders were collected in steppe habitats, on mesic floodplain meadows and on the forest edges.

In the species list, we give localities by the name of the nearest village: Dvorichanskyi Park – Krasne Pershe (49°56'N 37°46'E), Kamianka (49°59'N 37°50'E); Velykoburlutskyi Steppe – Nesterivka (49°54'N 37°18'E). In the Velykoburlutskyi Steppe, the investigated gullies were specified as follows: gully-1 – bottom of an ungrazed narrow gully; gully-2 – bottom of a grazed large gully (grazing was ceased in 2015); slope-1 – top of ungrazed south slope; slope-2 – top of ungrazed south-east slope; slope-3 – upper part of periodically grazed south slope (grazing was ceased in 2015); slope-4 – ungrazed north slope; slope-5 – ungrazed east slope; slope-6 – grazed east slope under high anthropogenic pressure. In the Dvorichanskyi Park, spiders were collected mostly on a southeast chalky slope and in adjacent gully.

General habitat characteristics is based on the species distribution in the steppe and forest-steppe zones of the East European Plain (Plochaninova, Prokopenko, 2013; Ponomarev, 2017). Names of geographic areas are adopted from Gorodkov, 1984 and Kryzhanovsky, 2002, and explained in Polchaninova, Prokopenko, 2013.

### List of species

#### Dictynidae

##### ***Altella hungarica* Loksa, 1981**

Material. Nesterivka: 2m, 20.05–18.06.2016, slope-3. Krasne Pershe: 2m1f, 17–29.05.2014, 2m, 11.05–13.06.2015, chalky slope.

Habitats: dry steppes, dry meadows, agricultural fields, quarry, a groove.

Distribution: the species was described from Hungary; recently, it has been recorded from the Donetsk Region of Ukraine and the Rostov Region of Russia (Ponomarev et al., 2017).

##### ***Argenna subnigra* (O.Pickard-Cambridge, 1861)**

Material. Nesterivka: 1f, 16.05–13.06.2014, slope-5, 4m1f, 11.05–7.06.2013, 2m, 27.05–13.06.2015, gully-1; 2m, 8.05–13.06.2015, gully-2. Krasne Pershe: 2m, 17–29.05.2014, 1m, 27.05–13.06.2015, chalky slope; 1m, 25.05–17.06.2016, edge of a floodplain forest.

Habitats: steppes, arable lands, transformed lands, forest plantations.

Distribution: Westpalaeartic temporal-subtropic.

##### ***Lathys heterophthalma* Kulczyński, 1981**

Material. Krasne Pershe: 1m, 11–27.05.2015, edge of a floodplain forest.

Distribution: Europe, W. Siberia, E. China. The only record from Ukraine. The species is often confused with *L. humilis*, its geographic distribution needs clarification.

#### Eresidae

##### ***Eresus kollari* Rossi, 1846**

Material. Nesterivka: 2m, 13.09–4.10.2015, 1m, 10.09–4.10.2016, 1m, 6.09–7.10.2017, slope-1; 1m, 6.09–12.10.2014; 7m, 13.09–4.10.2015, 2m, 10.09–4.10.2016, 4m, 6.09–7.10.2017, slope-2; 1m, 7.09–3.10.2013, 4m, 13.09–4.10.2015, 1m, 10.09–4.10.2016, slope-3; 1m, 6.09–12.10.2014, 2m, 13.09–4.10.2015, 2m 6.09–7.10.2017, gully-2. Krasne Pershe: 1m, 10.09.2008; 1m, 08.10.2014, 2f juv., 27.05–2.07.2015, 29m, 10.09–5.10.2015, chalky slopes. Kalynivka (Ship) 21m, 4–29.09.2017, chalky slope and a top slope covered with forb-bunchgrass steppe.

Other records from the Kharkiv Region: Merefa, Chervona Khvyliya. Red Data Book of Kharkiv Region.

Habitats: steppes and dry meadows, arable lands, saline marshes; glades and edges of parks and man-planted forests. In the Kharkiv Region, the species chooses the driest steppe communities with sparse vegetation. In certain years may be numerous.

Distribution: Transpalaeartic nemoral-subtropic.

#### Gnaphosidae

##### ***Civizelotes pygmaeus* Miller, 1943**

Material. Nesterivka: 2m1f, 11.05–23.06.2013, 1f, 10.07–16.08.2014, 1m1f, 27.05–13.06.2015, 1m, 20.05–18.06.2016, slope-1; 1m, 13–23.05.2012, 1m, 27.05–13.06.2015, slope-3; 1m, 23.05–11.06.2012, slope-6; 2f, 23.05–11.06.2012, 1f, 11–26.06.2013, gully-1; 3m1f, 11.05–13.06.2015, gully-2.

Habitats: steppe slopes, arable and abandoned lands.

Distribution: West Scythian. The northern range of the species area runs through the Kharkiv Region

##### ***Drassyllus vinealis* (Kulczyn'ski, 1897)**

Material. Nesterivka: 1f, 23.05–11.06.2012, 1m, 11.05–17.06.2013, 1f, 13.06–11.07.2014, 1m, 27.04–27.05.2015, 3m1f, 20.05–18.06.2016, slope-1; 1f, 23.05–11.06.2012, slope-3; 1f, 16.05–13.06.2014, slope-5, 1m2f, 23.05–22.07.2012, slope-6; 1f, 06.06–17.07.2008, mesic meadow. Krasne Pershe: 1m, 11–25.05.2016, chalky slope.

Habitats: steppes, dry meadows (mesic meadows as an exception), seashore, arable and abandoned lands, steppe kolki.

Distribution: Transeurasian nemoral-subtropical.

##### ***Gnaphosa dolosa* Herman, 1879**

Material. Nesterivka: 1m, 5–22.06.2012, slope-1; 1m, 6.05–23.06.2014, slope-5; 1m, 5–22.06.2012, gully-1.

Habitats: steppe slopes, arable lands.

Distribution: West Ancient Mediterranean. The northern range of the species area runs through the

Kharkiv Region.

***Gnaphosa licenti* Shenkel, 1953**

Material. Nesterivka: 8m5f, 23.05–23.07.2012, 13m2f, 26.04–8.08.2013, 12m4f, 16.05–5.08.2014, 63m, 13f 8.05–13.06.2015, 1f, 13.09–10.10.2015, 18m3f, 20.05–27.07.2016, 29m10f, 23.06–23.07.2017, slope-1; 1m, 7–26.06.2013, 1m1f, 16.05–13.07.2014, 1m, 27.05–13.06.2015, 1m, 20.05–27.07.2016, slope-2; 19m2f, 23.05–23.07.2012, 1m, 7–26.06.2013, 2m, 27.05–13.06.2015, slope-3; 3m, 27.05–23.06.2017, slope-4; 1m, 23.05–11.06.2012, slope-6. Krasne Pershe: 8m1f, 17.05–3.07.2014, 9m1f, 11.05–13.06.2015, 7m2f, 25.05–26.07.2016, chalky slope.

Other records from the Kharkiv Region: Novomykolaivka.

Habitats: the most dry steppe slopes with sparse vegetation, arable and abandoned fields. In preferable habitats may be dominant.

Distribution: Scythian. Presumably, the species is extending to the west; the westernmost known localities are in the right-bank part of the Dnepropetrovsk and the Kherson regions (Prokopenko, Zhukov, 2018a, b).

***Gnaphosa lugubris* (C.L.Koch, 1839)**

Material. Nesterivka: 5m9f, 24.06–22.07.2012; 7m5f, 26.04–8.08.2013, 6m10f, 24.04–5.08.2014, 83m45f, 8.05–7.07.2015, 27.04–27.07.2016, 4m4f, 27.04–23.07.2017, 1f, 6.09–7.10.2017, slope-1; 26m10f, 26.04–8.08.2013, 27m3f, 24.04–5.08.2014, 98m16f, 8.05–7.07.2015, 41m23f, 27.04–27.07.2016, slope-2; 17m10f, 24.06–22.07.2012, 28m7f, 26.04–8.08.2013, 14m5f, 24.04–5.08.2014, 57m20f, 8.05–7.07.2015, 15m8f, 27.04–27.07.2016, slope-3; 5m2f, 26.04–8.08.2013, 1m, 24.04–5.08.2014, 25m8f, 8.05–7.07.2015, 9m2f, 27.04–27.07.2016, 9m4f, 27.04–23.07.2017, gully-1; 7m4f, 24.06–22.07.2012, 2m2f, 26.04–8.08.2013, 1m, 24.04–5.08.2014, 1m1f, 8.05–7.07.2015, 2m, 27.04–27.07.2016, 27.04–23.06.2017, gully-2. Krasne Pershe 3m, 8.06–20.07.2008; 3m1f, 17–29.05.2014, 2m3f, 11.05–13.06.2015, 3m3f, 12.05–17.06.2016, chalky slope; 7m, 27.05–13.06.2015, 6m, 11.05–17.06.2016, gully bottom.

Other records from the Kharkiv Region: Chervona Khvyliya, Novomykolaivka. Red Data Book of Kharkiv Region.

Habitats: steppes, dry meadows, arable and abandoned fields.

Distribution: West-Central Palaearctic temperate. The southernmost range of this species on the East European Plain runs through the Kharkiv and Luhansk regions. Being distributed patchily, the species can be numerous in preferable habitats.

***Gnaphosa taurica* Thorell, 1875**

Material. Krasne Pershe: 1 m, 8.06–20.07.2008, 10m4f, 26.04–12.06.2014, 16m6f, 11.05–2.07.2015, 15m1f, 26.04–21.07.2016, chalky slope.

Red Data Book of Kharkiv Region.

Habitats: steppes, arable lands, sea shore, glades in parks and dry forest edges. The species is numerous in the southern steppes; in the forest-steppe zone, it occurs only on chalk and limestone outcrops.

Distribution: West Ancient Mediterranean.

***Trachyzelotes lyonneti* (Audouin, 1826)**

Material. Nesterivka: 2m, 13.06–17.07.2003, old abandoned field.

Other records from Kharkiv Region: Novomykolaivka.

Distribution: West Ancient Mediterranean.

***Zelotes aeneus* (Simon, 1878)**

Material. Krasne Pershe: 1f, 3.07.2014, chalky slope.

Other records from the Kharkiv Region: Haidary.

Habitats: steppes and dry meadows.

Distribution: European.

***Zelotes mundus* (Kulczyn'ski, 1897)**

Material. Nesterivka: 1f, 24.04–13.05.2012, herd path.

Habitats: steppes, arable lands, parks, bairak forests, saline marshes, seashore.

Distribution: Scythian.

***Zelotes segrex* (Simon, 1878)**

Material. Nesterivka: 1m, 6.06–18.07.2008, mesic meadow in a gully.

Habitats: steppes, arable lands, parks, bairak forests, saline marshes, seashore.

Distribution: Ancient Mediterranean.

### Linyphiidae

#### ***Agyneta fuscipalpa* (C.L.Koch, 1836)**

Material. Nesterivka: 1m, 20.05–18.06.2016, gully-2.

Habitats: wetlands, mesic meadows, rarely in the dry grasslands, abandoned lands and pastures, forest shelterbelts, open forests.

Distribution: West-Central Palearctic temporal-subtropic.

#### ***Agyneta saaristoi* Tanasevitch, 2000**

Material. Nesterivka: 1m1f, 24.04–23.06.2013, slope-3.

Habitats: dry grasslands, bushes and tree grooves in the steppe, saline marshes and seashore vegetation.

Distribution: West Scythian. The species is often confused with *A. rurestris*; its geographic and habitat distribution needs clarification.

#### ***Ipa terrenus* (L.Koch, 1879)**

Material. Nesterivka; 1m5f, 13.06–11.07.2014, slope-4; 1f, 23.05–22.06.2012, slope-6.

Habitats: steppes and arable lands.

Distribution: West Ancient Mediterranean.

#### ***Russocampus polchaninovae* Tanasevitch, 2004**

Material. Krasne Pershe: 1m, 27.05–13.06.2015, edge of a floodplain forest.

Distribution: The only record from Ukraine. The species was described from the Belgorod Region of Russia (Tanasevitch, 2004) and later found on the northern macroslope of the Caucasus (Teberda Nature Reserve, Martynovchenko, Mikhailov, 2014).

### Lycosidae

#### ***Pardosa maisa* Hippa&Mannila, 1982**

Material. Nesterivka: 3m, 26.04–16.06.2014, floodplain meadow.

Habitats: wet and mesic meadows.

Distribution: Central European-West Siberian. Ukraine: Kharkiv and Poltava regions.

### Miturgidae

#### ***Zora pardalis* Simon, 1878**

Material. Nesterivka: 5m, 27.04–22.06.2017; 1f, 6.09–07.10.2017, slope-4; 1m1f, 27.05–11.06.2012, 1f, 22.07–15.09.2012, 10m, 11.05–22.0.2013, 2m1f, 26.04–11.07.2014, 3m, 26.04–17.07.2015, 5m1f, 20.05–17.07.2016, 3m1f, 27.05–23.07.2017, gully-1; 1f, 06.06–17.07.2008, gully near a pond; 6m, 06.06–17.07.2008, edge of a bairak forest. Krasne Pershe: 3m2f, 26.04–3.07.2014, 1m, 27.05–13.06.2015, 2m, 27.05–13.06.2016, chalky slope; 4m, 27.05–13.06.2015, 21m, 11–25.05.2016, gully bottom; 1m, 11–27.05.2015, edge of a floodplain forest.

Other records from the Kharkiv Region: Milova.

Habitats: steppes, dry and mesic meadows, forest edges, open pine forests and poplar stands.

Distribution: West Ancient Mediterranean.

### Philodromidae

#### ***Thanatus oblongiusculus* (Lucas, 1846)**

Material. Nesterivka: 1f, 15.07.2003, 1m1f, 22.06.2008, steppe vegetation on the top slopes.

Other localities in Kharkiv Region: Kytsivka.

Habitats: steppe slopes with sparse vegetation.

Distribution: Ancient Mediterranean.

### Salticidae

#### ***Carrhotus xanthogramma* (Latreille, 1819)**

Material. Krasne Pershe: 1m, 8.06.2008, 1f juv., 11.05.2015 chalky slope.

Other localities in Kharkiv Region: Maslii, Kharkiv, Mala Volcha (A.Slutsky), Chervona Khvyliya.

Habitats: steppes, dry meadows, open dry forests and forest edges.

Distribution. Amphipalaeartic nemoral-subtropic.

#### ***Chalcoscirtus nigrinus* (Thorell, 1875)**

Material. Nesterivka: 1m1f, 16.05–11.06.2014, slope-1.

Habitats: dry steppes.

Distribution. Ancient Mediterranean. Only four localities are known from Ukraine.

#### ***Euophrys petrensis* (C.L.Koch, 1837):**

Material. Krasne Pershe: 1m, 8.06.2008, 3m, 11.05–13.06.2015, chalky slope.

Habitats: steppe slopes with sparse vegetation, spoil banks, open pine forest.

Distribution: European-Ancient Mediterranean.

***Philaeus chrysops* (Poda, 1761)**

Material. Krasne Pershe: 1m, 8.06.2008, chalky slope.

Other localities in the Kharkiv Region: Mala Kamyshuvakha, Husyna Poliana, Dovhalivka (A.Slytsky), Petrivske, Kytsivka.

Habitats: steppes, dry meadows, forest edges, open pine forest.

Distribution: Transpalaeartic nemoral-subtropic.

***Talavera aperta* (Miller, 1971)**

Material. Nesterivka: 1m, 7–23.06.2013, gully-1; 1m, 06.06–17.07.2008, mesic meadow in a gully. Krasne Pershe: 1m, 27.05–13.06.2015, chalky gully.

Habitats: mesic meadows.

Distribution. West-Central Palaeartic nemoral-subtropic. Only three localities are known from Ukraine.

**Theridiidae**

***Euryopis laeta* (Westring, 1861)**

Material. Krasne Pershe: 1f, 8.06.2008, 2m3f, 17.05–3.07.2014, 1m1f, 27.05–13.06.2015, chalky slope.

Distribution: European-Ancient Mediterranean. The only valid record from Ukraine.

***Euryopis quinqueguttata* Thorell, 1875**

Material. Nesterivka: 1f, 13.06.2003, edge of a bairak forest; 1f, 13.06–7.07.2015, slope-1. Krasne Pershe: 1f, 8.06.2008, 1f, 29.05–12.06.2014, chalky slope.

Habitats: steppes, dry forest edges, forest shelterbelts.

Distribution: West Ancient Mediterranean.

***Laseola coracina* (C.L.Koch, 1837)**

Material. Nesterivka: 1f, 13.06.2003, steppe slope.

Distribution: European. Only two localities are known from Ukraine. Nesterivka is the easternmost known locality.

***Theridion innocuum* Thorell, 1875**

Material. Nesterivka: 2f, 08.06.2012, top of a steppe slope.

Habitats: steppes, dry meadows, saline marshes, parks, forest shelterbelts, glades in pine forest and poplar stands.

Distribution: Scythian. Widely distributed in southern Ukraine, but not common.

**Thomisidae**

***Ozyptila pullata* (Thorell, 1875)**

Material. Krasne Pershe: 10m3f, 24.06–3.07.2014, 2m4f, 11.05–2.07.2015, 6m2f, 27.04–17.06.2016, chalky slope.

Habitats: steppe slopes with sparse vegetation, bunchgrass steppe.

Distribution: European nemoral.

***Xysticus marmoratus* Thorell, 1875**

Material. Krasne Pershe: 1f, 17–29.05.2014, 8m, 10.09–8.10.2014, chalky slope.

Other records from the Kharkiv Region: Kytsivka, Milova.

Habitats: steppes, arable lands, mesic meadow.

Distribution: West Scythian. The northern range of the species area runs through the Kharkiv Region.

***Xysticus mongolicus* Schenkel, 1936**

Material. Krasne Pershe: 4m, 10.09–8.10.2014, chalky slope.

Other records from the Kharkiv Region: Kytsivka, Milova. Red Data Book of Kharkiv Region.

Habitats: sand and chalk grasslands.

Distribution: Scythian. The northern range of the species area runs through the Kharkiv Region.

**Titanoecidae**

***Titanoeca veteranica* Herman, 1879**

Material. Nesterivka: 1f, 27.05–13.06.2015, slope-2.

Habitats: steppes, arable lands, dry pine forest.

Distribution: Western Ancient Mediterranean.

### Results and discussion

At present, 233 spider species have been registered in the NNP Dvorichanskyi and RLP Velykoburlutskyi Steppe. Of these, 32 species can be assigned to the category of rare in the Kharkiv Region. Despite the fact that the investigated Parks are located in a distance of 40 km and host similar habitats, the long-term studies revealed only eight common species in this list. Eleven species were recorded from the Dvorichanskyi Park and 13 species from the Velykoburlutskyi Steppe. This suggests the restrictions of species distribution and their vulnerability thus highlighting value of the Parks' territories for biodiversity conservation.

The most valuable are the finds of species with narrow ranges and patchy distribution: *Russocampus polchaninovae* has been found in Europe in four localities and *Altella hungarica* in seven localities only. The second is a group of species with wider European ranges but found in Ukraine in one (*Lathys heterophthalma*, *Euryopsis laeta*), two (*Trachyzelotes lyonetti*, *Pardosa maisa*, *Laseola coracina*) or three (*Talavera aperta*) localities. The other species are rare or distributed locally in the Kharkiv Region.

Northern boundaries of the geographic ranges of *Civizelotes pygmaeus*, *Gnaphosa dolosa*, *Xysticus marmoratus*, *X. mongolicus* and the southern boundary of *Gnaphosa lugubris* run through the Kharkiv Region. The species existing at the border of their ranges often become habitat specialists. For instance, in the Kharkiv Region, *Xysticus mongolicus* inhabits only sandy and/or chalky steppes, and *Gnaphosa taurica* only chalk and limestone outcrops. In main areas of their ranges, both species possess high ecological plasticity.

Five species (*Gnaphosa lugubris*, *G. licenti*, *G. taurica*, *Zora pardalis* and *Eresus kollari*) were abundant in our samplings; four species (*Argenna subnigra*, *Civizelotes pygmaeus*, *Drassyllus vinealis*, *Oxyptolla pullata*) were common while 19 species were found as singletons (maximum three specimens).

*Gnaphosa lugubris* dominated annually all the steppe slopes in the Velykoburlutskyi Steppe being subdominant in the bottoms. In the Dvorichanskyi Park, this species was not abundant and preferred gully bottom. *Gnaphosa taurica*, in the contrast, occupied the slopes and peaked in number on the bare chalk. Such a habitat distribution of both species at the edge of their geographic ranges is stipulated by the differences in their geographical patterns, northern for the former species and southern for the latter.

*Gnaphosa licenti* was the most abundant on the ungrazed south-facing slope in the Velykoburlutskyi steppe as well as on the chalky slope in the Dvorichanskyi Park. *Eresus kollari* preferred chalky slopes being extremely abundant in certain years. *Zora pardalis* occurred mainly in gully bottoms; if on the slopes, it chose wetter conditions of the northern exposition or dense vegetation. *Ozyptilla pullata* was a chalky slope specialist. Being not numerous, *Altella hungarica*, *Euryopsis laeta*, *Civizelotes pygmaeus* and *Drassyllus vinealis* occurred annually in the same habitats that may indicate stability of their populations.

Inhabiting isolated localities, even numerous species become extremely vulnerable under the threat of habitat loss. The only way to protect them is to prevent anthropogenic transformation of their natural biotops, namely afforestation of steppe slopes, ploughing, and/or quarrying.

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