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AUTHORS: Merve GENÇ ÇOSKUN, Osman SEYYAR, Hakan DEMİR

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SHORT COMMUNICATION

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Notes on *Cryptodrassus creticus* (Araneae: Gnaphosidae) from Turkey

Türkiye'den bilinen *Cryptodrassus creticus* (Araneae: Gnaphosidae) türü üzerine notlar

Merve Genç ÇOŞKUN^a, Osman SEYYAR^{a*}, Hakan DEMİR^a

^aDepartment of Biology, Faculty of Science and Arts, Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University, 51200, Niğde, Turkey

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*Corresponding author:

e-mail: osmanseyyar@hotmail.com

ORCID: 0000-0002-0920-7943

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Anahtar Kelimeler: Anadolu, *Cryptodrassus creticus*, yeni kayıt, yeni lokalite, örümcek

ABSTRACT

The species of *Cryptodrassus creticus* is only known from female specimen in Turkey. In this study, we found male specimens of this species for the first time and add a new locality to its distribution in Anatolia. Its general habitus and genitalia are illustrated.

Öz

Cryptodrassus creticus türünün sadece dişi bireyleri Türkiye'den bilinmektedir. Bu çalışmada, bu türün erkek bireyleri ilk defa bizim tarafımızdan bulunmuştur ve türün Anadolu'daki dağılımına yeni bir lokalite daha eklenmiştir. Türün genel vücut yapısı ve genitelyası fotoğraflandırılmıştır.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The Gnaphosidae Banks, 1892 is the sixth largest family in Araneae and is currently represented by 2414 species belonging to 144 genera worldwide (World Spider Catalog, 2022). So far, 147 species belonging to 32 genera gnaphosids are listed from Turkey (Topçu et al., 2005; Demir & Seyyar, 2017; Danışman et al., 2021).

The *Cryptodrassus* members are small spiders and very close to *Synaphosus* in general appearance. Nine species of this genus are recognized worldwide (World Spider Catalog, 2022) and only one species is known from Turkey (Danışman et al., 2021). *Cryptodrassus creticus* Chatzaki, 2002 was known only female specimens from Adana Province in Turkey (Seyyar et al., 2006). We are finding

male specimens for the first time and adding new localities (Black Sea Region) of this species from Turkey. The aim of this paper is to present the gnaphosid spider *C. creticus* as a new record of male sex and a new locality record for Turkey. The recording of this species widens its distribution in Turkey (Figure 1).

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

In this study, two male specimens were collected from the Black Sea Region of Turkey. Examined specimens were preserved in 70% ethanol and deposited in the NOHUAM. In the identification, Chatzaki et al. (2002) and Murphy (2007) were consulted. The identification was made by means of an SZX61 Olympus stereomicroscope.

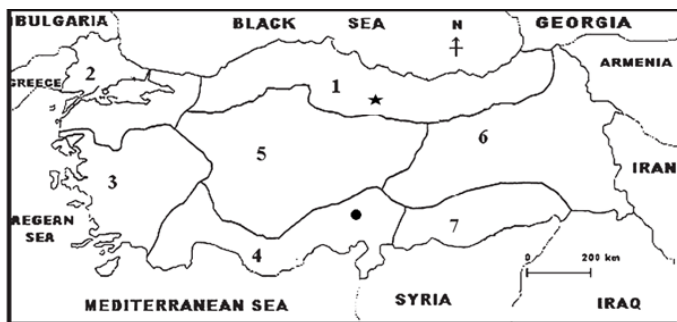


Figure 1. Localities of *Cryptodrassus creticus* Chatzaki, 2002 geographical regions of Turkey. 1- Black Sea Region (BSR), 2- Marmara region (MR), 3- Aegean region (AR), 4- Mediterranean region (MER), 5- Central Anatolia Region (CAR), 6- East Anatolia Region (EAR), 7- Southeastern Anatolia Region (SAR). Old locality (●) and New locality (★).

3. RESULTS

C. creticus Chatzaki, 2002: Figures 2-3

Taxonomic references

C. creticus Chatzaki, 2002; *C. creticus* Seyyar, Topçu & Demir, 2006; *C. creticus* Murphy, 2007.

Description: Carapace and opisthosoma yellow. Posterior median eyes oval. Sternum elliptic. Tarsi I, II with scopulae. Male palp (Figure 3) is similar to description by Chatzaki et al. (2002). Tibial apophysis with wide-base and thin at the apex end. Embolus filiform and long. Conductor strong, with a sclerotized, claw at the base.

Measurement (Male). Body length 4.3 mm; carapace length 1.8 mm, width 1.2 mm; clypeus length 0.05 mm; length of legs: I: 5.96 mm, II: 4.9 mm, III: 4.8mm, IV: 6.4 mm; leg I: coxa 0.67 mm, trochanter 0.20 mm, femur 1.20 mm, patella 0.65 mm, tibia 1.02 mm, metatarsus 0.65 mm, tarsus 0.60 mm.

Collecting specimens: Turkey, Black Sea Region: Tokat Province, Niksar district, Mutluca village surrounding, (40°25'58.63"N, 37° 7'2.93"E), 445m, (21.06.2021), (2♂♂), Legs. (Fotoğraflar: Merve Genç Çoşkun & Osman Seyyar).

Comments: The habitus of *Cryptodrassus* is very similar to the member of *Synaphosus*. Until now, this genus has been represented by nine species all over the world (World Spider Catalog, 2022) and is the only species in Anatolia (Danışman et al., 2021). Here, the male specimens are found by us from Kelkit valley (Tokat province) of Turkey. This species may either be uncommon or it's locally distributed in Anatolia because

we did not otherwise find it during our collecting trips. The characteristic features of our *C. creticus* samples are not different from the European specimens.



Figure 2. *Cryptodrassus creticus* Chatzaki, 2002: Habitus (male) A- dorsal, B- ventral, C- ocular area

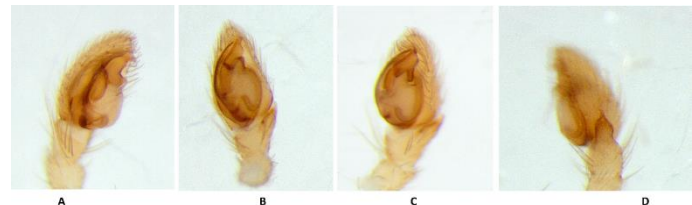


Figure 3. Male palp of *Cryptodrassus creticus* Chatzaki, 2002: A-lateral view, B-ventral view, C-prolateral view, D-retrolateral view

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