



## NOTA BREVE:

**Spiders collected in the Lago de Sanabria Natural Park and Surroundings (Zamora, Spain) - August 2003 (Araneae)**

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**Spiders collected in the Lago de Sanabria Natural Park and surroundings (Zamora, Spain) - August 2003 (Araneae)**

Juan M Alberdi

**Abstract:**

The results are presented of a collecting campaign carried out in August 2003 in the Lago de Sanabria Natural Park and its surrounding area (Zamora, Spain). 390 specimens (157 adults) were collected, belonging to 36 species and 12 families.

**Key words:** Araneae, faunistics, Lago de Sanabria, Zamora, Spain.

**Arañas colectadas en el Parque Natural del Lago de Sanabria y alrededores (Zamora) - Agosto de 2003 (Araneae)**

**Resumen:**

Se presentan los resultados de una prospección aracnológica realizada en agosto de 2003 en el Parque Natural del lago de Sanabria (Zamora) y alrededores. Como resultado se han obtenido 390 especímenes (157 adultos), pertenecientes a 36 especies de 12 familias.

**Palabras clave:** Araneae, faunística, Lago de Sanabria, Zamora, España.

Here I give an account of the results of a spider collecting trip to the Natural Park of the Lake of Sanabria and its Surroundings, that took place from the 19th to the 27th of August 2003.

The Park is situated at the NorthWest side of the province of Zamora in Spain, in a region called Sanabria, next to the Portuguese border. The area belongs to the lower parts of the mountains of the Sierras Segundera and Cabrera, which are part of the mountain range bordering the Northern side of the Spanish Meseta. The highest point is Peña Trevinca which is 2124 m high, being the Lake at 990 m. The height of the explored area varied from 900 m to 1700 m.

It is a granitic massif with several little lakes and rivers whose waters go first to the river Tera, a tributary to the river Pisuerga and then to the river Duero. Temperature and pluviosity regimes, with annual average values of 10 °C and 1400 mm respectively, are intermediate between the oceanic type climate at the North and the continental type at the Meseta. A. Melic (2001) classifies this region as of a 'Interior Mountain Climate' with important temperature changes from summer to winter, 25 °C to -3 °C, and a relatively high rainfall level. The vegetation in the Park and its surroundings is of two kinds: in the lower parts oak woods (*Quercus pyrenaica*) dominate and above 1400-1500 m we find generic heathland with species such as *Erica australis*, *Chamaespartium tridentatum*, *Halimium alyssoides*, *Luzula lactea* y *Erica umbellata* in the drier parts, and *Genista anglica*, *Erica tetralix*, *Genista micrantha* and *Calluna vulgaris* in the wetter parts (García López *et al.*, 1992).

Collecting was done more often in the lower areas, all specimens located in the UTM 10x10 Km square 29TPG86. The weather was sunny with only two rainfalls during the collecting period and temperatures between 20 °C and 30 °C. Collecting time started at 5.30 GMT every morning and lasted for a couple of hours. The technique used was beating to a plastic tray of 22 x 22 cm. In the lower areas collecting was done in wooded areas and wood borders, also on borders of paths connecting villages. All the specimens came from the herbaceous and bush strata, excepted *Pardosa lugubris*, taken by hand from the ground. Specimens were much more abundant on damp and dense vegetation, drier areas giving very few of them.

From a total of 390 specimens 157 (40%) were adults and 233 were immatures. However sometimes immatures were not taken from the tray as it was the case for *Pisaura mirabilis*. All the adult specimens but one have been identified, and also some of the immatures, making a total of 36 species belonging to 12 different families. The remaining adult is still in the process of identification. At the moment all the adult specimens are kept in my private collection.

**List of adult specimens**

Species names according to Platnick (2003).

Family ARANEIDAE Simon, 1895

*Araneus quadratus* Clerck, 1757

1f, 20-08-2003, 29TPG8268, 1600m, Cardena-Chanas-Freire, Galende, Zamora, heathland.

*Mangora acalypha* (Walckenaer, 1802)

1f, 21-08-2003, 29TPG8569, 1500m, cueva de San Martín, Galende, Zamora, bushes-grass.

Familia LINYPHIIDAE Blackwall, 1859

*Bolyphantes luteolus* (Blackwall, 1833)

2m, 3f, 24-08-2003, 29TPG8268, 1600m, Garandones-Sextil Alto-Fuente Labada, Galende, Zamora, heathland  
1f, 27-08-2003, 29TPG8864, 1200m, Ribadelago Nuevo, Galende, Zamora, wood.

*Gonatium ensipotens* (Simon, 1881)

2m, 2f, 20-08-2003, 29TPG8268, 1600m, Cardena-Chanas-Freire, Galende, Zamora, heathland.  
1m, 21-08-2003, 29TPG8569, 1500m, cueva de San Martín, Galende, Zamora, bushes-grass.  
2m, 22-08-2003, 29TPG8563, 1400m, Ribadelago-laguna Sotillo, Galende, Zamora, bushes-grass.  
1m, 27-08-2003, 29TPG8864, 1200m, Ribadelago Nuevo, Galende, Zamora, wood.

*Linyphia tenuipalpis* Simon, 1884

3m, 8f, 19-08-2003, 29TPG8666, 1100m, Ribadelago-San Martín de Castañeda, Galende, Zamora, wood.  
1m, 5f, 20-08-2003, 29TPG8268, 1600m, Cardena-Chanas-Freire, Galende, Zamora, heathland.  
1m, 4f, 21-08-2003, 29TPG8569, 1500m, cueva de San Martín, Galende, Zamora, bushes-grass.  
2m, 5f, 23-08-2003, 29TPG8667, 1050m, Mallafolgar, Galende, Zamora, meadow.  
1m, 1f, 24-08-2003, 29TPG8268, 1600m, Garandones-Sextil Alto-Fuente Labada, Galende, Zamora, heathland  
1m, 25-08-2003, 29TPG9365, 1000m, Galende-Trefacio, Galende-Trefacio, Zamora, wood.  
4f, 26-08-2003, 29TPG9162, 1000m, Galende-Quintana-Limianos, Cobrerros, Zamora, wood.  
3f, 27-08-2003, 29TPG8864, 1200m, Ribadelago Nuevo, Galende, Zamora, wood.

*Linyphia triangularis* (Clerck, 1757)

2m, 7f, 19-08-2003, 20TPG8666, 1100m, Ribadelago-San Martín de Castañeda, Galende, Zamora, wood.  
1f, 20-08-2003, 29TPG8268, 1600m, Cardena-Chanas-Freire, Galende, Zamora, bushes-grass.  
2m, 1f, 21-08-2003, 29TPG8569, 1500m, cueva de San Martín, Galende, Zamora, bushes-grass.  
2m, 8f, 22-08-2003, 29TPG8563, 1400m, Ribadelago-laguna Sotillo, Galende, Zamora, bushes-grass.  
1m, 2f, 23-08-2003, 29TPG8667, 1050m, Mallafolgar, Galende, Zamora, bushes-grass.  
1f, 24-08-2003, 29TPG8466, 1600m, Garandones-Sextil Alto-Fuente Labada, Galende, Zamora, heathland.  
1m, 8f, 25-08-2003, 29TPG9365, 1000m, Galende-Trefacio, Galende-Trefacio, Zamora, wood.  
2m, 1f, 25-08-2003, 29TPG9667, 1000m, Galende-Trefacio, Galende-Trefacio, Zamora, wood.  
3m, 7f, 26-08-2003, 29TPG9162, 1000m, Galende-Quintana-Limianos, Cobrerros, Zamora, wood.  
7m, 9f, 27-08-2003, 29TPG8864, 1200m, Ribadelago Nuevo, Galende, Zamora, wood.

*Neriere clathrata* (Sundevall, 1830)

1f, 23-08-2003, 29TPG8667, 1050m, Mallafolgar, Galende, Zamora, meadow.

*Tenuiphantes tenuis* (Blackwall, 1852)

1m, 19-08-2003, 29TPG8666, 1100m, Ribadelago-San Martín de Castañeda, Galende, Zamora, wood.  
1f, 20-08-2003, 29TPG8268, 1600m, Cardena-Chanas-Freire, Galende, Zamora, heathland.  
1m, 22-08-2003, 29TPG8563, 1400m, Ribadelago-laguna Sotillo, Galende, Zamora, bushes-grass.  
2f, 24-08-2003, 29TPG8466, 1600m, Garandones-Sextil Alto-Fuente Labada, Galende, Zamora, heathland.  
1m, 1f, 24-08-2003, 29TPG8268, 1600m, Garandones-Sextil Alto-Fuente Labada, Galende, Zamora, heathland

Family LYCOSIDAE Sundevall, 1833

*Pardosa pullata* (Clerck, 1757)

1f, 23-08-2003, 29TPG8667, 1050m, Mallafolgar, Galende, Zamora, meadow.

*Pardosa lugubris* (Walckenaer, 1802)

1f, 22-08-2003, 29TPG8563, 1400m, Ribadelago-laguna Sotillo, Galende, Zamora, wood.

Family MIMETIDAE Simon, 1881

*Ero tuberculata* (De Geer, 1778)

1f, 20-08-2003, 29TPG8268, 1600m, Cardena-Chanas-Freire, Galende, Zamora, heathland.  
1f, 24-08-2003, 29TPG8268, 1600m, Garandones-Sextil Alto-Fuente Labada, Galende, Zamora, heathland.

Family PISAURIDAE Simon, 1890

*Pisaura mirabilis* (Clerck, 1757)

1f, 20-08-2003, 29TPG8268, 1600m, Cardena-Chanas-Freire, Galende, Zamora, heathland.

Family SALTICIDAE Blackwall, 1841

*Evarcha arcuata* (Clerck, 1757)

2f, 25-08-2003, 29TPG9365, 1000m, Galende-Trefacio, Galende-Trefacio, Zamora, wood.

1f, 26-08-2003, 29TPG9162, 1000m, Galende-Quintana-Limianos, Cobrerros, Zamora, wood.

*Evarcha falcata* (Clerck, 1757)

1m, 19-08-2003, 20TPG8666, 1100m, Ribadelago-San Martín de Castañeda, Galende, Zamora, wood.

1m, 21-08-2003, 29TPG8569, 1500m, cueva de San Martín, Galende, Zamora, bushes-grass.

*Heliophanus cupreus* (Walckenaer, 1802)

1f, 26-08-2003, 29TPG9162, 1000m, Galende-Quintana-Limianos, Cobrerros, Zamora, wood.

*Synageles venator* (Lucas, 1836)

1m, 22-08-2003, 29TPG8563, 1400m, Ribadelago-laguna Sotillo, Galende, Zamora, bushes-grass.

Family TETRAGNATHIDAE Menge, 1866

*Metellina segmentata* (Clerck, 1757)

1m, 2f, 27-08-2003, 29TPG8864, 1200m, Ribadelago Nuevo, Galende, Zamora, wood.

*Pachygnatha degeeri* Sundevall, 1830

1f, 19-08-2003, 29TPG8666, 1100m, Ribadelago-San Martín de Castañeda, Galende, Zamora, wood.

1f, 21-08-2003, 29TPG8569, 1500m, cueva de San Martín, Galende, Zamora, bushes-grass.

2m, 23-08-2003, 29TPG8667, 1050m, Mallafolgar, Galende, Zamora, bushes-grass.

1f, 25-08-2003, 29TPG9667, 1000m, Galende-Trefacio, Galende-Trefacio, Zamora, wood.

1m, 27-08-2003, 29TPG8864, 1200m, Ribadelago Nuevo, Galende, Zamora, wood.

*Tetragnatha extensa* (Linnaeus, 1758)

1f, 24-08-2003, 29TPG8268, 1600m, Garandones-Sextil Alto-Fuente Labada, Galende, Zamora, heathland.

Family THERIDIIDAE Sundevall, 1833

*Neottiura bimaculata* (Linnaeus, 1767)

1f, 20-08-2003, 29TPG8268, 1600m, Cardena-Chanas-Freire, Galende, Zamora, heathland.

4f, 24-08-2003, 29TPG8268, 1600m, Garandones-Sextil Alto-Fuente Labada, Galende, Zamora, heathland.

Family THOMISIDAE Sundevall, 1833

*Xysticus cristatus* (Clerck, 1757)

1f, 20-08-2003, 29TPG8268, 1600m, Cardena-Chanas-Freire, Galende, Zamora, heathland.

1f, 23-08-2003, 29TPG8667, 1050m, Mallafolgar, Galende, Zamora, meadow.

### Immature specimens

Apart from the adults juvenile specimens of the following genera were also identified,

Araneidae: *Aculepeira* sp., *Agalenatea* sp., *Araneus* sp., *Cercidia* sp., *Cyclosa* sp., *Gibbaranea* sp.

Dictynidae: *Dictyna* sp.

Sparassidae: *Micrommata* sp.

Tetragnathidae: *Pachygnatha* sp.

Theridiidae: *Theridion* sp.

Thomisidae: *Diaea* sp, *Misumena* sp, *Synaema* sp, *Thomisus* sp.

Philodromidae: *Tibellus* sp.

Carmen Urones (1987) has also found in the area *Xysticus cristatus*, *Misumena vatia*, *Micrommata virescens*, *Thomisus onustus* and *Diaea pictilis*, now *D. livens*.

### Comments about the species found

Most of the adult specimens (80%) came from the family Linyphiidae, being *Linyphia triangularis* and *Linyphia tenuipalpis* very abundant, all the specimens being adult individuals. It may also be interesting to note that the general distribution of *L. tenuipalpis* seems to be much more restricted than that of *L. triangularis*, which is a common species in Northern Iberia, including the Balearic islands. *L. tenuipalpis* has been much more often recorded in Northern Portugal than in its Spanish counterpart, and in Sanabria they share habitat and the reproduction period seems to coincide too. Average sizes of the specimens were 4.4 mm and 4.9 mm for the males and the females of *L. tenuipalpis*, respectively, and 5.3 mm and 5.8 mm for their homologous of *L. triangularis*.

Most of the *Bolyphantes luteolus* specimens were also adults, but this was not the case for *Gonatium ensipotens* and *Neriere clathrata* showing that their peak of reproduction activity takes place a few weeks later. *B. luteolus* is a species distributed in Northern and Middle Europe but also in the mountains of Southern Europe, such as in Sanabria. Other records of *B. luteolus* in Spain are from the Serra de l'Obac (Catalunya) and San Juan de la Peña (Aragon).

Apart from a couple of recent records of *G. ensipotens* from the island of Menorca, the records for this species from

the peninsula are very old, being the most recent by A. Bacelar in 1928. The species is known to be distributed in the South of France and North of Portugal and Spain, this information being based on old records by E. Simon.

*Tenuiphantes tenuis* was the only *Tenuiphantes*–*Lepthyphantes* species found.

As for the family Araneidae, the only adult specimens collected were a female of *Araneus quadratus* and another of *Mangora acalypha*, but immature specimens of other species were also found (see the list of genera). Most of them were found on heathland, whereas only *G. tuberculata* was in woodland. Nor *Araneus diadematus* neither *Argiope bruennichi*, two common species at this season and widely spread in the Iberian peninsula, were seen.

Only on heathland and at the highest points (1600-1700m) were also collected *Ero tuberculata* and *Neottiura bimaculata*, with two of the females of *N. bimaculata* carrying their egg sacs.

### Acknowledgments

I thank A. Melic for his help in finding information for the identification of *G. ensipotens*.

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