

## SOME FAUNISTICAL REMARKS ON SPIDERS OF THE GENUS *HAPLODRASSUS* (ARANEAE: GNAPHOSIDAE) FROM TURKEY

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**Abstract** - The characteristic features of *Haplodrassus mediterraneus* Levy, 2004 and *Haplodrassus silvestris* (Blackwall, 1833), which are recorded for the first time in Turkey, are presented in this paper. Digital and SEM photographs of genitalia of the new recorded species are presented together with their zoogeographical distributions.

**Key words:** Gnaphosidae, Araneae, new records, *H. mediterraneus*, *H. silvestris*, Turkey

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### INTRODUCTION

The spider fauna of Turkey, despite its outstanding zoogeographical situation, is rather poorly studied compared to other regions of the world. Gnaphosidae is however the most studied spider family in Turkey. The known gnaphosid fauna of Turkey includes 126 species and 30 genera (Topçu et al., 2005; Seyyar et al., 2008; 2009; 2010; Kovblyuk et al., 2009; Panayiotou et al., 2010; Seyyar and Demir, 2010).

*Haplodrassus* is one of the dominant gnaphosid genera in Turkey. This genus belongs to the subfamily Drassodinae. *Haplodrassus* can be distinguished from all other drassodine gnaphosids by their posterior median eyes being separated by their radius or less, by the flattened retrolateral tibial apophysis in males, and by the presence of paired lateral epigynal arms in females.

Sixty two species and three subspecies of *Haplodrassus* have been reported in the latest version (12.0) of the World Spider Catalogue (Platnick, 2011). So far, 10 species of the genus, *H. dalmatensis* (L. Koch, 1866), *H. invalidus* (O. P.-Cambridge,

1872), *H. kulczynskii* Lohmander, 1942, *H. macellinus* (Thorell, 1871), *H. morosus* (O. P.-Cambridge, 1872), *H. ovtchinnikovi* Ponomarev, 2008, *H. ponomarevi* Kovblyuk and Seyyar, 2009, *H. signifer* (C. L. Koch, 1839), *H. soerenseni* (Strand, 1900) and *H. umbratilis* (L. Koch, 1866) have been recorded from Turkey (Seyyar et al., 2008; Kovblyuk et al., 2009).

In the present study, two new records, *H. mediterraneus* Levy, 2004 and *H. silvestris* (Blackwall, 1833), are recorded for the first time from Turkey. Digital photographs of the genitalia and a detailed description of these species are presented. Localities of the material examined and world distribution of species are given in the text.

This paper will provide new data about *Haplodrassus* of Turkey.

### MATERIALS AND METHODS

The specimens were collected from different places in the south of Turkey. The specimens were preserved in 70% ethanol and deposited in the Niğde University Arachnology Museum.

In SEM photograph studies, the male palp was mounted using double-sided tape on SEM stubs, coated with gold in a Polaron SC 502 Sputter Coater, and examined with a JEOL JSM 5600 Scanning Electron microscope at 15 kW. All measurements are in millimeters. Abbreviations used in the text are as follows: E, embolus; MA, median apophysis; TA, terminal apophysis; NUAM, Niğde University Arachnology Museum.

### Taxonomy

#### *Haplodrassus mediterraneus* Levy, 2004

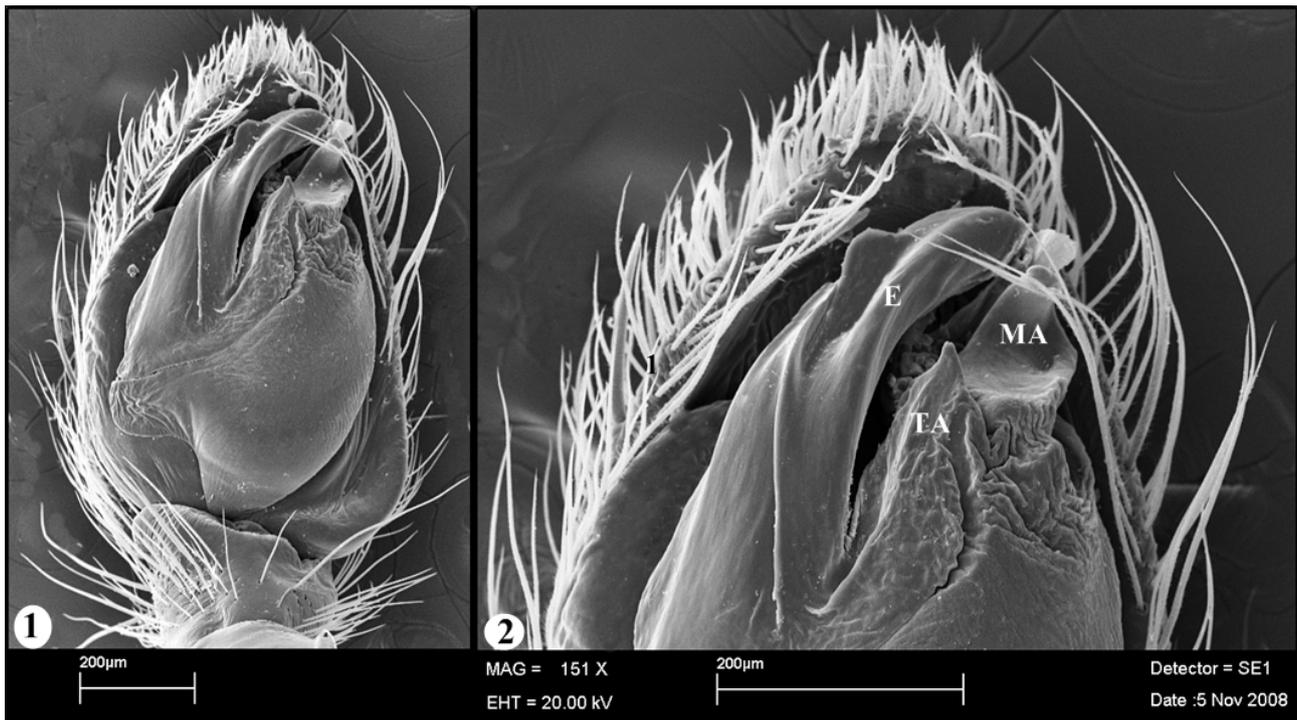
Material examined: Turkey: *Kahramanmaraş province*, Pazarcık district, surrounding of Ulubahçe village, (37°29'N, 37°23'E), 917m, under the barks of *Verbascum* sp., 21.X.2008 (2♂♂, 2♀♀), Leg: O. Seyyar.

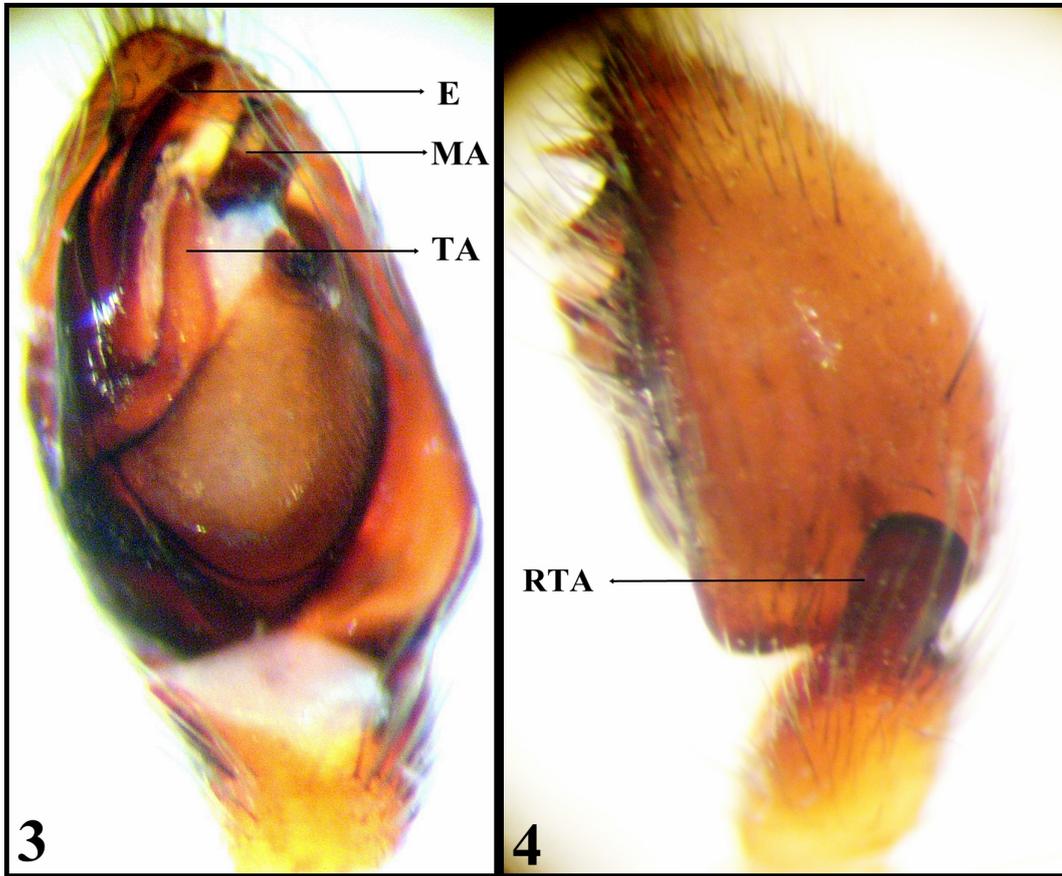
### DESCRIPTION

The total length of the animals is 6.2–7.2 mm (n=2)

in males and 8.0–9.2 mm (n=2) in females. The carapace is elongate-oval, flattened, with the ocular area narrowed, yellowish red posteriorly, darker anteriorly; the thoracic groove is distinct; the anterior eye row is slightly pro-curved; the posterior eye row is pro-curved; anterior eyes are circular, posterior median eyes are irregularly triangular, posterior lateral eyes are oval. The posterior median eyes are largest; the chelicerae possess two pro-marginal and two retro-marginal teeth. The endites medially excavate with the serrula; the labium is wide and triangular; the sternum is rounded and lighter than carapace; leg formula 4123. The abdomen is light grey. The male palp (Figs. 1-4) and epigyne (Figs. 5-6) resemble the description of Levy (2004).

Comment: Adult males and females of this species were collected from under the bark of *Verbascum* sp. in October from the south of Turkey. We observed specimens of this species at only one collection site in research area. Although this species is very common and found nearly the year round on Israel (Levy, 2004), it is rarely found in Anatolia. The morphomet-





**Figs. 1-6.** Photographs male palp and epigyne of *H. mediterraneus*: 1-3 - ventral view of male palp, 4 - retrolateral view of male palp, 5 - epigyne, 6 - vulva.

ric measurements and other characteristic features of our samples are similar to the Israel specimens. The discovery of this species from Turkey is important to its zoogeographical distribution

World distribution: Israel (Platnick, 2011).

*Haplodrassus silvestris* (Blackwall, 1833)

Material examined: Turkey: *Gaziantep province*, surrounding of Sarkçagözü town, under stones, 12.IV.2008 (2♂♂), Leg: Zübeyde Kumbıçak.

#### DESCRIPTION

Total length 6.4–7.2 mm (n=2) in males. Carapace elongate-oval, flattened, with ocular area narrowed, yellowish brown posteriorly, darker anteriorly; with short fovea; eyes in two pro-curved rows; anterior eyes circular, posterior median eyes irregularly triangular, posterior lateral eyes oval. Posterior median eyes largest; chelicerae with two pro-marginal and two retro-marginal teeth. Endites medially excavate with serrula; labium wide and triangular; sternum rounded and lighter than carapace; leg formula 4123, trochanters not notched, metarsi without preening

comb and tarsi with two pectinate claws and claws tufts. Abdomen light grey without dorsal scutum.

Male palp (Figs. 7-9) and hibia resemble description of Roberts (1995).

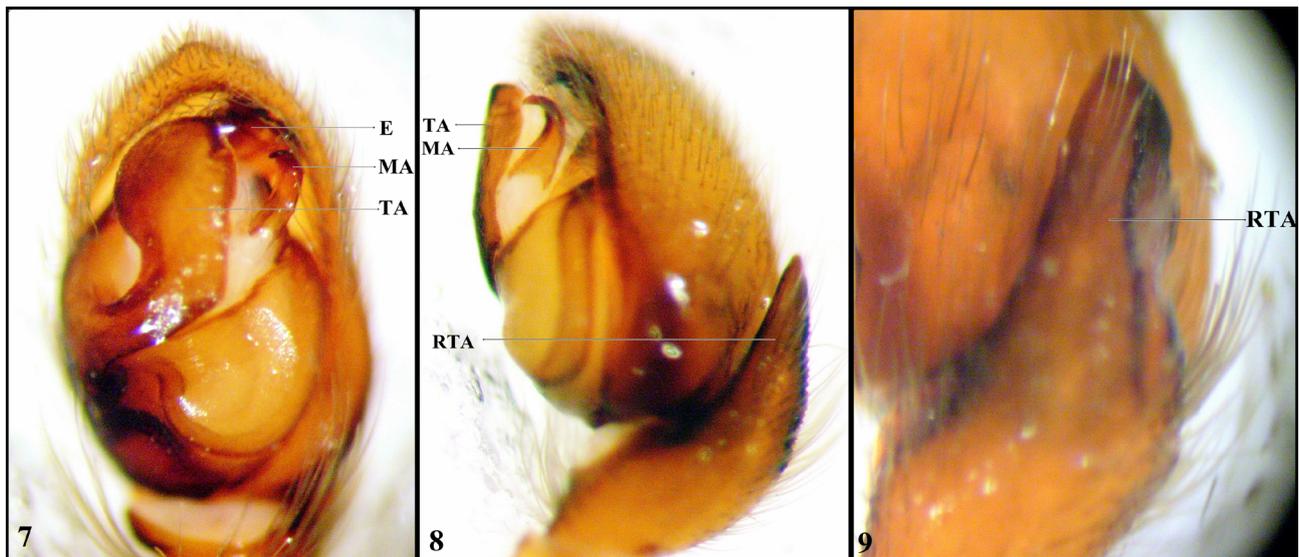
Comment: This species may either be uncommon or it's locally distributed in Anatolia because we did not otherwise find it during our collecting trips. The characteristic features of our *H. silvestris* samples are not different from the European specimens.

World distribution: Palearctic (Platnick, 2011).

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**Figs. 7-9.** Photographs male palp of *H. silvestris*: 7 - ventral view of male palp, 8 - retrolateral view of male palp, 9 - shape of retrolateral tibial apophysis in male palp.

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