



## A new addition for the araneofauna of Turkey: *Enoplognatha caricis* (Araneae: Theridiidae)

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### Abstract

*Enoplognatha caricis* has been discovered for the first time in Turkey. The characteristic features are presented, in addition to the geographical distribution of the species.

**Keywords:** Araneae, Theridiidae, addition, Turkey.

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### INTRODUCTION

The family Theridiidae Sundevall, 1833 is one of the most diverse families of spiders from both the morphological and ecological points of view. This family includes some of the very few cases of social behavior reported in spiders, in addition to bizarre foraging behaviors such as kleptoparasitism and araneophagy along with a highly diverse web architecture. Theridiidae is one of the seven largest families in the Araneae, with 2283 described species (Platnick 2008). Genus *Enoplognatha* Pavesi, 1880, has a large colulus and a subspherical abdomen and all of its species are medium sized to large theridiid spiders. Females have a tooth on the posterior margin of the chelicerae. Males usually have enlarged chelicerae, with enlarged teeth and have the paracymbium on the margin of the cymbium (Levi and Levi 1962).

Until now, the following species *Enoplognatha afroditae* Hippa & Oksala, 1983, *E. gemina* Bosmans & Van Keer, 1999, *E. latimana* Hippa & Oksala, 1982, *E. macrochelis* Levy & Amitai, 1981, *E. mandibularis* (Lucas, 1846), *E. mediterranea* Levy & Amitai, 1981, *E. ovata* (Clerck, 1757), *E. parathoracica* Levy & Amitai, 1981, *E. quadripunctata* Simon, 1884 and *E. thoracica*

(Hahn, 1833) were recorded in Turkey (Topcu et al. 2005). In this brief paper, *Enoplognatha caricis* (Fickert, 1876) is reported as a new addition to the Turkish araneofauna.

### MATERIAL AND METHODS

Two males of *E. caricis* were collected from the village of Karandere, Sereflikochisar district, Ankara province, Turkey. The specimens were preserved in 70% ethanol and taken to the Arachnology Museum of the Turkish Arachnological Society (MTAS-TURKEY). The identification was made by means of a SMZ10A Nikon Stereo microscope using the keys of Levi and Levi (1962) and Kupryjanowicz (1997).

### RESULTS

Genus: *Enoplognatha* Pavesi, 1880, Ann. Mus. Civ. Stor. Nat. Geneva, vol. 15, p. 325. Type species by original designation and monotypy *Theridion mandibulare* Lucas.

Species: *Enoplognatha caricis* (Fickert, 1876)

Material: 2 males (MTAS/The: 0768-

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0769), Karandere village, Sereflikochisar district, Ankara province, Turkey (38°51'31.86"N, 33°37'12.09"E). 13 August 2007, Found on the leaves of a dwarf shrub.

Description: Body length, 4.0-4.5 mm. Prosoma, sternum and chelicerae yellowish brown. Opisthosoma greyish brown with white spots and a dorsal leaf shape pattern. Chelicerae with two large teeth on anterior margin and one small tooth on posterior

margin. Median apophysis in ventral view extending into proximal half of alveolus. Legs yellowish brown. Leg I measurements (mm): femur 1.8-2.2, patella 0.6-1.0, tibia 1.6-2.0, metatarsus 1.6-2.0, tarsus 0.7-1.1.

Distribution: North America (Levi 1957), Europe (Heimer and Nentwig 1991, Komposch 1995, Roberts 1995, Kupryjanowicz 1997, Bosmans and Van Keer 1999), and Russia (Kulczynski 1885).

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**Turkiye Araneofaunasina Yeni Bir Ilave: *Enoplognatha caricis* (Araneae: Theridiidae)**

**Ozet**

*Enoplognatha caricis*, Turkiye'den ilk defa kesfedildi. Karakteristik ozellikleri, ilaveten cografi dagilimi verildi.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** Araneae, Theridiidae, ilave, Turkiye.