

Project Update: July 2015

Fieldwork stage:

The team of the project “Subotica spiders” made a very good preliminary work. The pitfall traps and sweeping collecting techniques gave us the results on which we could conclude that the final list of species not only will have first records for our investigated place but for Serbia as well. We found as we expected some typical wetland spider species such as *Tetragnatha extensa*, *Pachygnatha degeeri*, and *Dolomedes plantarius* (fen raft spider).

Fen raft spider was found in traps and it is one of two *Dolomedes* species living in Europe. Its dependence on lowland aquatic habitats that are usually subject to human degradation in Serbia, make this species a candidate for extinction. Therefore its rediscovery in the protected area of the Subotica Sandlands could be highly relevant to its conservation.



Photo 1. Wetland species *Pachygnatha degeeri*

Photo 2. Wetland species *Tetragnatha extensa*



After encouragement from other arachnologist, we submitted an abstract of our work to the organisers committee of the 29th European Congress of Arachnology (Brno, Czech Republic) in August 2015 in section of faunistic. They accepted it so it will be presented as poster of untypical faunistic data: sandy place but wetland species. This will contribute popularisation of our project, important data control by experts and guidelines for future researches.