

Project Update: September 2017

Fieldwork stage:

The preparatory fieldtrip for the project "Subotica spiders II" was organised in March 2017 after the consultation with the management and rangers of the protected area. In the previous project, we chose atypical locality for our research – a wet place in a sandy area. They provided a very interesting and unique inventory list of species. For the current continuation job, we chose a more typical place: a sandy meadow, a mixed *Quercus-Populus* forest, and some acacia shrubs on sand. Sandy habitats and forest fragments will expand the inventory list of species, so we could establish what should be wise to protect in the future.

After placing the traps other collecting techniques were applied (sweeping, beating). The rangers of the Public Company "Palić-Ludaš" were the whole time with us. They helped us to dig and place traps. Refilling and emptying of traps continues to cycle in 7 days so the whole season will be cover. Sweep-netting will be applied every next fieldtrip.



Species that we recorded:



Left: *Agalenatea redii*. Right: *Clubiona terrestris*



Left: *Argiope lobata*. Right: *Xysticus kochi*



Harpactea rubicunda

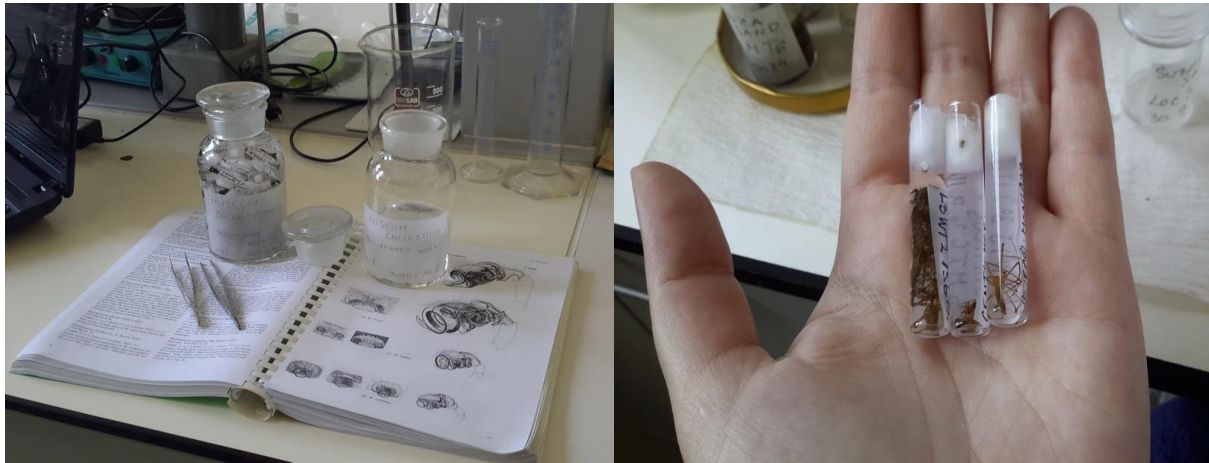
Laboratory stage:

We organised student training with cleaning traps – sorting out spiders, identification of the species collected and establishing a reference spider collection. Several students participate.

**Building a museum collection:**

During this project a lot of different spiders was and will be collected, so we start to prepare a new collection that could be used by anyone having an interest in Serbian spiders. This would enable future exchanges between museums, and some taxonomical questions could be answered more easily. This could be an important legacy for future generations.





Preparation of the Spider Day:

The event will be organised at 18th November 2017, in the The Institute for Nature Conservation of Vojvodina Province, but we already started with pre-activities. The mosaic and graphic workshop in The Vocational School of Design "Bogdan Šuput", Novi Sad was organised in May 2017, and preschool drawing competition was in June 2017. These artworks will be put up at the event exhibition, and the best will be rewarded. We also opened a photo-competition on spider subject, and the photos will be printed and exhibit. The instruction for the authors is on the site www.paukovisrbije.com, and on Facebook page.



