

**VICARIANCE OF TWO CLOSELY RELATED SPIDER SPECIES FROM GENUS
PHILODROMUS WALCKENAER, 1826: *P. ALBIDUS* KULCZYNSKI, 1911 AND *P. RUFUS*
WALCKENAER, 1826 (ARANEI, PHILODROMIDAE) IN THE CRIMEA**

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Here we report records of two closely related species of the genus *Philodromus* Walckenaer, 1826: *P. albidus* Kulczynski, 1911 and *P. Rufus* Walckenaer, 1826. *P. albidus* is recorded for the Crimea and Ukraine for the first time. Information on all collected specimens of both species is provided.

P. albidus differs from *P. rufus* in shape of retrolateral tibial apophysis, shape of tegulum and length of embolus, as well as length of copulatory duct of epigyne. Detailed diagnostic drawings of morphological characters for both species are provided.

Seasonal activities of *P. albidus* and *P. rufus* in the Crimea are similar. Adult specimens of *P. albidus* in the Crimea are found in June, like in Adygeya and England. Adult specimens of *P. rufus* in the Crimea are found from April to June and in August. The peak of activity is in May, like in Spain. No significant differences in phenology of both species are found.

Spatial distributions of *P. albidus* and *P. rufus* in the Crimea are different. *P. albidus* is recorded only from the wet nemoral (broadleaved) forests of the northern slope of Crimean Mountains. *P. rufus* was found in true steppes, premontane forest steppes, forests of the southern slope of the Crimean Mountains and sub-Mediterranean vegetation of the southern coast of the Crimea. Therefore, we found spatial vicariance of these closely related species in the Crimea. Landscape distribution of *P. albidus* and *P. rufus* is mapped.

Keywords: spiders, *Philodromus*, vicariance, spatial distribution, phenology, Crimea.

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