Data Paper

Spider assemblages (Arachnida: Araneae) of the Gran Paradiso National Park (NW Italy) from standardised pitfall trap sampling within the Italian Alpine Biodiversity Monitoring Project

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Abstract. This dataset provides records of spiders (Arachnida: Araneae) collected in Gran Paradiso National Park, north-western Italy, during the 2018 and 2019 field campaigns of the Biodiversity Monitoring Project (BMP), a long-term multi-taxa monitoring programme started in 2006 in the Italian Alps. Spiders were sampled with pitfall traps arranged along elevational transects distributed across the Orco, Cogne, Valsavarenche, Soana and Rhêmes valleys. The sampling design included 5 transects, 30 plots and 150 pitfall traps, with five traps per plot arranged linearly and spaced 50 m apart. Plots were distributed along elevational gradients from 1226 to 2650 m a.s.l. and covered a broad range of alpine, subalpine and montane habitats, including pastures, grasslands, broadleaved and coniferous woodlands, larch-ericaceous woodland, heathland, shrubland, screes and rocky grassland–rock outcrop mosaics. Pitfall traps were active from May, 9 to October, 14 2018 and from May, 4 to October, 6 2019 and were emptied approximately every 14 days. In total, 3648 adult individuals were recorded, representing 148 species-level taxa from 22 families, including 147 formally named species and one operational morphospecies, *Centromerus subcaecus auct. non Kulczyński, 1914*. The most abundant species were *Pardosa torrentum* Simon, 1876, *Pardosa riparia* (C. L. Koch, 1833), *Histopona leonardoi* Bolzern, Pantini & Isaia, 2013, *Pardosa mixta* (Kulczyński, 1887) and *Drassodes lapidosus* (Walckenaer, 1802). The dataset provides a standardised faunistic and ecological baseline for analysing spider assemblages, species composition, habitat relationships and elevational patterns in Alpine protected areas, and for future monitoring of temporal changes in Gran Paradiso National Park.

Keywords: alpine ecosystems, Alps, elevational gradients, plots, protected areas, spider assemblages, transects

The complete data sets and metadata corresponding to abstract of a Data Paper are published electronically as Supporting Information in the online version of the article and through the ARAMOB data repository at https://aramob.de/en/data/data-exploitation/ – filter for Project ARAMIT_Tolve2026

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