

# Ultra rare *Paraplectana sakaguchii* Uyemura, 1938 (Araneae: Araneidae) new to Korean spider fauna

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*Paraplectana sakaguchii* Uyemura, 1938 is a ultra rare species belonging to Araneidae worldwide. This species was collected by sweep net between the shrubs at the foot of mountainous region in August, 2012. This species is briefly described and illustrated in this report. The spider genus *Paraplectana* is also newly recorded to Korean spider fauna.

Keywords: Araneidae, description, Korea, *Paraplectana sakaguchii*

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## INTRODUCTION

The spider genus *Paraplectana* comprises 11 species described mostly from Africa and Asia (Platnick, 2014); *P. coccinella* (Thorell, 1890) from Myanmar and Nias Is., *P. duodecimmaculata* Simon, 1897 from Java, *P. hemisphaerica* (C. L. Koch, 1844) from Sierra Leone, *P. kittenbergeri* Caporiacco, 1947 from Tanzania, *P. multi-maculata* Thorell, 1899 from Cameroon and East Africa, *P. sakaguchii* Uyemura, 1938 from Japan and China, *P. thorn-toni* (Blackwall, 1865) from Central Africa and Yemen, *P. thorn-toni occidentalis* Strand, 1916 from West and Central, *P. tsushimensis* Yamaguchi, 1960 from China, Taiwan, and Japan, *P. walleri* (Blackwall, 1865) from West and Central Africa, and Madagascar, and *P. walleri ashantensis* Strand, 1907 from Ghana.

Among them, *Paraplectana sakaguchii* was erected by Uyemura in 1938 from Wakayama Prefecture, Japan. The male of this spider have never been described for 6 decades. In 2010, Tanikawa and Harigae (2010) finally described the male of this species. They secured the male of this species by hatching of unknown *Cyrtarachne* egg-sac obtained by chance. They identified the species by using morphological and molecular features. The single female of this species was collected by sweep net between the shrubs at the foot of Mt. Mudeung located in Gwangju metropolitan city in August, 2012. Present work briefly described and illustrated this species using a stereoscopic dissecting microscope (Olympus SZ 60). The

spider genus *Paraplectana* is also newly recorded to Korean spider fauna. The voucher specimen of this study was deposited in the collection of National Institute of Biological resources (NIBR), Korea.

## TAXONOMIC ACCOUNT

### *Paraplectana Brito Capello, 1867*

점박이새뚱거미속 (신칭)

*Paraplectana* is very similar to *Cyrtarachne* in external feature. However, the genus *Paraplectana* can be easily distinguished from *Cyrtarachne* by muscle impressions and round patterns on abdominal dorsum (Uyemura, 1938).

Type species: *Paraplectana thorn-toni* (Blackwall, 1865)

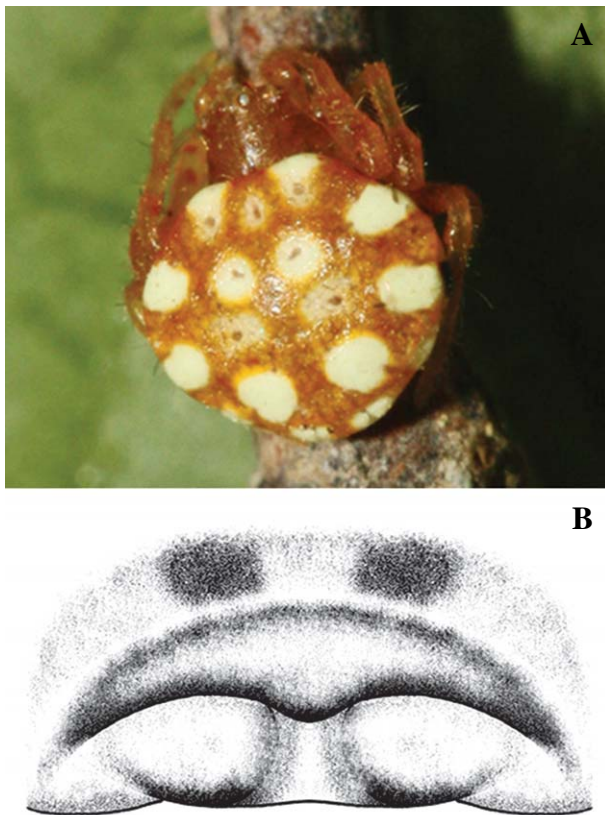
### *Paraplectana sakaguchii* Uyemura, 1938 (Fig. 1A, B)

주황흰점박이새뚱거미 (신칭)

*Paraplectana sakaguchii* Uyemura, 1938: 90; Wang, Zhang and Li, 1985: 66; Chikuni, 1989: 83; Feng, 1990: 80; Yin *et al.*, 1997: 385; Song, Zhu and Chen, 1999: 302; Tanikawa, 2007: 50; 2009: 428; Tanikawa and Harigae, 2010: 40.

*Paraplectana quadrimamillata* Schenkel, 1963: 177.

**Description.** *Female:* Body length about 7.20 mm. Carapace longer than wide, reddish brown, fovea spiniform and distinct, cervical and radial grooves darker. Eight eyes



**Fig. 1.** *Paraplectana sakaguchii* Uyemura, 1938. A. female (ecological photo), B. female epigynum.

small, both eye rows slightly recurved from the above, anterior eye row slightly shorter than posterior eye row. Legs reddish brown and somewhat transparent, each segment with darker annulations. Abdomen round, reddish brown, subequal in length and width, 17 pale yellowish white markings on dorsum, 3 pairs of muscle impressions distinct (Fig. 1A). Female epigynum simple, atrium slightly sclerotized and swelled, median septum vestigial, no scape (Fig. 1B).

**Specimen examined.** 1 female, 05-VIII-2012, Mt. Mu-deungsan, Gwangju metropolitan city, SY Lee and ST Kim leg.

**Ecological remarks.** This species collected with sweep net on the shrubs around the foot of mountainous region. This species also might be ultra rare in Korea, because the species was not collected despite intensive searching after first discover.

**Distribution.** Korea (newly recorded), China, Japan.

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