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Effect of Visitors on Alpine Ecosystems in the High Tetons

Charles C. Laing
University of Nebraska

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The specimens collected during the summer are now being labeled, and will soon be undergoing generic and specific identification, after which it is presumed that certain new ecological, biological, taxonomic, and zoogeographic findings will be available for the use of other biologists.

Supported by the New York Zoological Society.

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Charles C. Laing
University of Nebraska
Project Number 97

Work was continued on this project started in 1958.

Assisted by Paul Sebesta, University of Iowa.

Study of Spiders of the Family Lycosidae in Jackson Hole
Donald C. Lowrie
Los Angeles State College
Project Number 119

An analysis of the family Lycosidae was made to determine the distribution, especially with regard to the ecological habitat, of the 23 species already recorded from this area. This was accomplished with regard to the common species which could be collected frequently enough to determine the general type of habitat for each. However, about ten of the seventeen Pardosas, for example, were insufficiently common to make any certain statements about where they would be found. Likewise, with regard to their tolerances for humidity. Enough data are available for only six species to clearly indicate their humidity preferences. Four species of lycosids not collected previously were found based on over 400 specimens collected at over thirty different localities from the valley floor to over 11,000 feet. It seems that much further work is necessary to get any idea of the ecological habitats of over half of the lycosids of the area. Additional data were collected on all species of the area, but further study is needed.

Exploratory work with the squash technique for preparation of cells for study of chromosomes was carried out and over seventy-five slides of spider eggs prepared for study this winter.

Data on food habits were almost completely unobtainable. Only two specimens were collected in the process of feeding. Laboratory feeding indicated that this was probably due to the fact that prey was fed upon and the dead and mashed body discarded usually within an hour. For future work it would seem practical to try laboratory feeding of various insects to determine which would be accepted; field observations are too few to be of much use.

Assisted by Mrs. Jackie Bonquet.
Supported by the New York Zoological Society.