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TWO NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS *HOLASPULUS* (ACARI : GAMASIDA : PARHOLASPIDAE) FROM JAPAN

by Kazuo ISHIKAWA *

**TAXONOMY**

**HOLASPULUS**

**JAPAN**

**ABSTRACT:** Two new mites belonging to the genus *Holaspulus* of the gamasid family Parholaspidae are described under the names *H. omogoensis* n.sp. and *H. montanus* n.sp. They were found in forest litter in Japan.

**TAXONOMIE**

**HOLASPULUS**

**JAPON**

**RéSUMÉ:** Deux nouvelles espèces d'*Holaspulus, H. omogoensis* sp. nov. et *H. montanus* sp. nov., de la famille Parholaspidae, originaires du Japon, sont décrites.

The members of the Parholaspidae, which includes the genus *Holaspulus*, form a dominant group among the free-living predatory gamasid mites in Japan.

The genus *Holaspulus* was proposed by Berlese in 1904 for *Holostaspis (Holaspulus) tenuipes* from Italy, and was later dealt with by Evans (1956), Krantz (1960) and Ishikawa (1969, 1979). Up to now, two species have been recorded in Japan, these are *H. tenuipes* Berlese, and *H. serratus* Ishikawa. In this paper, the author describes two new species, *Holaspulus omogoensis* sp. nov. and *H. montanus* sp. nov.

The holotype, allotype and a part of paratypes of the new species are deposited in the collection of the Department of Zoology, National Science Museum (Nat. Hist.), Tokyo. A set of paratypes of *H. omogoensis* sp. nov. are retained in the collection of Omogo Mountain Museum, Ehime, and the remaining paratypes are retained in the collection of the Laboratory of Biology, Matsuyama Shinonome College, Matsuyama.

Litter and soil samples were brought back to the laboratory in cotton bags, and extraction of mites from the samples was done by using a modified Tullgren apparatus. The mites were preserved in 70 % ethanol, cleared in lactophenol, and mounted in Hoyer's medium.

**Holaspulus omogoensis** sp. nov.

[Japanese name : Omogo-heragehokodani]

(Fig. 1 A-G)

**Female.** Length of idiosoma : av. 668 μm; width of idiosoma : av. 462 μm; length of dorsal shield with a range of 605-690 μm, av. 640 μm; width of dorsal shield at the level of coxae IV with a range of 400-475 μm, av. 429 μm; light brown in colour.

**Dorsum.** Dorsal shield entire, ornamented with punctations and reticulations, especially on the posterior portion. Dorsal shield bearing 30 pairs of setae and 22 pairs of pores; setae spatulate distally, with the exception of simple minute setae z1. Extramarginal setae spatulate distally and increasing in length from anterior to posterior. Length of setae (holotype) : verticals 66 μm, j2 45 μm, j3 47 μm, j4 38 μm, j5 42 μm, j6 46 μm, J1 42 μm, J2 43 μm, J6 59 μm, z1 5 μm and humerals 83 μm. The

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Fig. 1: Holaspulus omogoensis sp. nov., (A-B, D, F-G, female; C, E, male).
distribution of setae and pores are as shown in Fig. 1A.

Venter. Tritosternum well developed, with a pair of pilose laciniae more than twice as long as tritosternal base. Presternal shields composed of a pair of platelets. Sternal shield strongly sclerotized, heavily ornamented with a network of ridges, and fused with endopodal shields. Sternal setae I longer than setae II and III, setae III lying well inside the bases of setae II. Metasternal shields free; provided with a pair of simple setae and pores. Epigynal shield fused posteriorly with ventrianal shield and with a pair of simple setae. Ventrianal shield fused with epigynial, podal and peritrematal shields, and with four pairs of preanal and three perianal setae. Expulsory vesicles of ventrianal shield absent. Interscutal membrane between dorsal and ventral shields provided with fourteen pairs of spatulate setae. Metapodal shields present. Stigmata situated at a position anterolateral to coxae IV. Peritremes extending to coxae I.

Gnathosoma. Epistome with spinose median projection, with several short spines on either side and a pair of elongate lateral extensions. Apotele of palpal tarsus bearing three tines, two of which are spatulate distally. Fixed digit of chelicera provided with one large and three small teeth and a pilus dentilis, while movable digit (169 µm) is bidentate and longer than corniculus (130 µm). Salivary stylus (128 µm) well developed. Length of anterior hypostomastic setae 85 µm, internal posterior hypostomastic setae 49 µm, external posterior hypostomastic setae 46 µm and deutosternal setae 42 µm.

Legs. Tarsus I without claws or pulvilli; tarsus I (193 µm) more than twice the length of tibia I (85 µm). Tarsi II-IV each with well developed claws and pulvilli. Length of legs in the holotype: I (excl. sensory setae) 662 µm, II 563 µm, III 468 µm and IV 570 µm.

Male. Length of idiosoma av. 602 µm; length of dorsal shield with a range of 553-658 µm, av. 589 µm; width of dorsal shield at a level of coxae IV with a range of 385-462 µm, av. 449 µm.

Dorsal chaetotaxy and ornamentation similar to those of female. Sternitigenital portion ornamented with a network of punctae, with five pairs of simple setae. Ventrianal portion reticulated, provided with four pairs of simple setae and three perianal setae. Fixed digit of chelicera bidentate; movable digit (136 µm) unidentate and much longer than spermatodactyl (73 µm). Tarsus I with neither claws nor pulvilli. Femur II with a large thumb-like spur, and genu, tibia and tarsus II each with a small spur. Length of legs in the holotype: I (excl. sensory setae) 618 µm, II 535 µm, III 430 µm and IV 517 µm.


Remarks. The chaetotaxy and ornamentation of the dorsal shield of the present species resemble those of Holaspulus montanus sp. nov., described from litter layer under Betula ermani Cham., in the Shiga Heights, Nagano Pref., but is distinguished from the latter species by the following characteristics: movable digit of male chelicera much longer than spermatodactyl, instead of approximately the same length; interscutal membrane between dorsal and ventral shields provided with 14 pairs of spatulate setae, instead of 12 pairs. H. omogoensis also differs from H. tweediei Evans, 1956, described from a rotting tree in Singapore, in the following characteristic features: dorsal setae z1 simple and minute, instead of simple and long; sternal shield ornamented with a network of fine punctae, rather than coarse punctae.

Holaspulus montanus sp. nov.

[Japanese name: Shigayama-heragehokodani]

(Fig. 2 A-G)

Female. Length of idiosoma: av. 580 µm; width of idiosoma: av. 432 µm; length of dorsal shield with a range of 560-592 µm, av. 575 µm; width of dorsal shield at the level of coxae IV with a range of 406-428 µm, av. 417 µm.
FIG. 2: *Holaspulida montanus* sp. nov., (A-B, D, F-G, female; C, E, male).

**Dorsum.** Dorsal shield entire, ornamented with punctations and reticulations, especially on the posterior portion. Dorsal shield provided with 30 pairs of setae, which are spatulate distally with the exception of simple minute setae z1, and 22 pairs of pores. Extramarginal setae spatulate distally, lying on strongly striated lateral interscutal membrane.

Length of setae (holotype): verticals 57 μm, j2 44 μm, j3 43 μm, j4 36 μm, j5 37 μm, j6 39 μm, J1 38 μm, J2 40 μm, J6 55 μm, z1 5 μm, z2 59 μm and humerals 80 μm. The distribution of setae and pores are as shown in Fig 2A.

**Venter.** Tritosternum well developed, with a pair of pilose laciniae more than twice as long as tritosternal base. Presternal shields consisting of a pair of platelets. Sternal shield sclerotized and ornamented with a network of ridges, provided with three pairs of simple setae and two pairs of lyrifissures. Metasternal shield free, with a pair of simple setae and pores. Epigynial shield fused posteriorly with ventrianal shield and with a pair of simple setae. Ventrianal shield fused with epigynial, podal and peritrematal shields, with four pairs of preanal setae and three perianal setae. Expulsory vesicles of ventrianal shield absent. Interscutal membrane between dorsal and ventral shields provided with 12 pairs of setae, four pairs of which are especially spatulate. Metapodal shields conspicuous, located lateral to preanal setae II. Stigmata situated at a position anterolateral to coxae IV. Peritremes extending to coxae I.

**Gnathosoma.** Epistome with spinose median projection and several short spines and elongate lateral projections on either side of the median projection. Palpal apotele bearing three tines, two of which are spatulate distally. Fixed digit of chelicera provided with one large and three small teeth and a pilus dentilis, while movable digit (132 μm) is bidentate; movable digit (96 μm) unidentate and approximately as long as spermatodactyl (95 μm). Tarsus I without claws or pulvilli. Tarsus I with a large thumb-like spur, and genu, tibia and dactyl, instead of being much longer; interscutal membrane between dorsal and ventral shields provided with 12 pairs of spatulate setae, instead of 14 pairs.

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