Acarologia is proudly non-profit, 
with no page charges and free open access

Please help us maintain this system by 
encouraging your institutes to subscribe to the print version of the journal 
and by sending us your high quality research on the Acari.

Subscriptions: Year 2019 (Volume 59): 450 €
http://www1.montpellier.inra.fr/CBGP/acarologia/subscribe.php
Previous volumes (2010-2017): 250 € / year (4 issues)
Acarologia, CBGP, CS 30016, 34988 MONTFERRIER-sur-LEZ Cedex, France

The digitalization of Acarologia papers prior to 2000 was supported by Agropolis Fondation under 
the reference ID 1500-024 through the « Investissements d’avenir » programme 
(Labex Agro: ANR-10-LABX-0001-01)

Acarologia is under free license and distributed under the terms of the 
Creative Commons-BY-NC-ND which permits unrestricted non-commercial use, distribution, and 
reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.
THE GENUS ACERIA KEIFER (ACARINA : ERIOPHYOIDEA) FROM INDIA WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF THREE NEW SPECIES AND KEY TO INDIAN SPECIES

BY N. K. GHOSH * and S. CHAKRABARTI *

ABSTRACT: Three new species of Aceria Keifer viz., A. bassiae infesting Bassia latifolia Roxb., A. dasi infesting Diospyros melanoxylon Roxb., and A. randi infesting Randia dumetorum Lamk. are described from West Bengal and Bihar. A. bambusae Channabasavanna, A. crotalariae Channabasavanna and A. sorgii Channabasavanna are reported for the first time from north east India. An account of the genus Aceria has also been provided with a key for separating the Indian species.


INTRODUCTION

The genus Aceria was erected by Keifer (1944) to accommodation worm like mites having dorsal shield setae projecting caudad from tubercles of the rear shield margin. Newkirk and Keifer (1971) reviewed Eriophyes von Siebold and provided a general description for it and stated that “These structures are the same as were used in establishing Aceria as a genus”. Therefore, they considered Aceria as a synonym of Eriophyes. Accordingly, this system was in use for quite a number of years. However, Shevchenko (1975), Lindquist (1977) and others objected to this action and proposed to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to retain the genus Aceria. Their argument was that the genera Aceria and Eriophyes as known prior to Newkirk and Keifer’s (1971) paper, contain many economic species of great importance and a change in their names would create considerable confusion to taxonomists, biologists and students.

In a decision by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature (1979), the generic name Aceria is retained.

* Biosystematic Research Unit, Department of Zoology, University of Kalyani, Kalyani 741 235, India.

This genus consists of a large number of species infesting several host plants of most families. In India so far, 53 species under this genus were known through the works of CHANNABASAVANNA (1966), MOHANASUNDARAM and SUBRAMANIAM (1977), MOHANASUNDARAM (1979, 1980, 1982, 1983), CHAKRABARTI and GHOSH (1980), RISHI and RATHER (1981), MOHANASUNDARAM et al. (1984), and MOHANASUNDARAM and SHARMA (1984a, 1984b). Here, 3 new species are described from West Bengal and Bihar. This addition brings the total number of 56 species from India. Besides the detailed account of these new species, 3 species are newly reported from northeast India and a key for separating these species have also been provided in this paper.

All measurements are expressed in microns (μm).

The following abbreviations are used to denote the various parts in the text figures. A. Lateral view of mite. B. Dorsal shield. C. Coxae with female genitalia. D. Side skin structure. E. Fore leg. F. Hind leg. G. Featherclaw. H. Internal female apodeme.

The type slides are deposited presently in the collections of Biosystematics Research Unit, Department of Zoology, University of Kalyani, Kalyani 741 235, India.

1. Aceria bambusae Channabasavanna


Material examined : 12 females, India : West Bengal : Midnapur, Hoograght, 27.ii.1985, from Bambusa sp. (Gramineae), coll. N. K. GHOSH.

Distribution : India : Karnataka, West Bengal.

Relation to host : The mites along with another eriophyid species, Tegolophus bambusae Channabasavanna, were collected from leaf sheaths of terminal shoots. No apparent damage symptoms of mites was noticed.

Remarks : The present material is smaller in size (142-155 long, 32-36 wide) than the original description given by CHANNABASAVANNA (1966).

2. Aceria bassiae sp. nov.

(Fig. 1)

Female : Body 133-175 long, 30-51 wide ; worm-like, white in colour. Rostrum 18-22 long, projecting obliquely forward; sub-apical seta 6-8 long. Shield subtriangular, 19-24 long and 27-35 wide; shield design represents some lines; median line straight and complete; admedians complete and parallel to median; first submedians complete; second and third submedians incomplete and occurring laterad to the shield; dorsal tubercles on rear shield margin, 12-15 apart, 12-18 long, setae directing divergently to rear. Foreleg from trochanter base 31-39 long; femur 7-9 long, seta 11-15 long; patella 3-5 long, seta 18-26 long; tibia 6 long, seta 6-9 long; tarsus 6 long with two upper setae, each 27-35 long; claw 6-8 long. Moderately arched; featherclaw simple, 6-rayed. Hindleg 28-36 long from the base of trochanter; femur 6-8 long, seta 9-12 long; patella 3-5 long, seta 12-15 long; tibia 4-8 long; tarsal setae 18-24 long; other characters as in foreleg. Coxae contiguous, sternal line distinct; first setiferous coxal tubercles placed at the level of anterior coxal approximation; second coxal tubercles set well ahead of the line between the third coxal tubercles; coxae ornamented with fine granules.

Abdomen with 68-73 uniformly microtuberculate rings; microtubercles round and placed on ring margins; telosomal rings ventrally microstriated. Lateral seta 16-24 long, on ring 11-13; first ventral seta 26-32 long, on ring 24-27; second ventral seta 7-15 long, on ring 39-41; telosomal seta 16-21 long, on ring 7-9 from rear; caudal seta 41-50 long; accessory seta 6-8 long. Genitalia 18-21 wide, 10-14 long; genital cover flap with 8-11 longitudinal scorings; genital seta 12-16 long.

Male : Not seen.

Holotype : Female (marked), on slide (No. 425/143/81), India : West Bengal : Bankura, Dubrakone forest, 15.iii.1981 from Bassia latifolia Roxb. (Sapotaceae), coll. B. GHOSH. Paratypes : 26 females on 8 slides (Nos. 425-432/143/81), collection data as in the holotype; 21 females, on 3 slides (Nos. 809-811/23/85), Purulia, Pyrachali, 10.iv.1985 from Bassia latifolia Roxb. (Sapotaceae) Coll. N. K. GHOSH.

Distribution : India : West Bengal.
Fig 1: *Aceria bassiae* sp. nov.
Relation to host: This mite species was found within the hairs of bud. No remarkable symptom of damage was noticed.

Remarks: Among the species of the genus Aceria Keifer having 6-rayed featherclaw, median shield line and uniformly microtuberculate body rings, the present species is close to A. neocynodonis Keifer (1960), A. sapindi Channabasavanna (1966), A. baccharipha Keifer (1970) and A. polygalae Mohanasundaram (1982) by the position of its first setiferous coxal tubercles at the level of anterior coxal approximation, ornamented coxae and accessory seta. However, it differs from all the above 4 species in lacking granules or striations on lateral margin of shield and having complete first submedian shield lines. Besides, it differs from sapindi and polygalae by the presence of granules on coxae and from neocynodonis, sapindi and baccharipha by its complete median shield line.

3. Aceria crotalariae Channabasavanna


Materials examined: 26 females, India : Tripura : Agartala, 4.xi.1985 from Adina sessilifolia Hook (Rubiaceae), Coll. S. CHAKRABARTI.

Distribution: India : Karnataka, Tripura, West Bengal.

Relation to host: This species produces globose, solitary or clustered pouch galls on dorsal surface of leaves. The gall cavity is spacious and lined with few hairs. During heavy infestations, large numbers of galls are develop on the leaf surface resulting a considerable degree of distortion and curling of leaves.

4. Aceria dasi sp. nov. (Fig. 2)

Female : White, worm-like eriophyids found in two forms; in one body 150-165 long and 45-48 wide; in other body 202-258 long and 51-54 wide.

Rostrum 17-18 long, downcurved; subapical seta 4-8 long. Shield subtriangular, 32-38 long, 48-54 wide; shield design simple, median present except anterior 0.1 part; admedians complete and connected with median at 0.6 part from anterior part of shield; two submedians run parallel and meet at 0.5 part forming the shape of an alter; other details shown in the figure; dorsal tubercles on rear shield margin, 15-17 apart, 14-16 long, setae directing divergently to rear. Foreleg 27-29 long from trochanter base; femur 9 long, seta 6-8 long; patella 3 long, seta 22-24 long; tibia 4-5 long, seta 7-8 long; tarsus 6-8 long with two upper setae, each 22-23 long; claw simple, 7-8 long; featherclaw-3 rayed. Hindleg from the base of trochanter 24-26 long; patellar seta 9-11 long; tarsus with two setae, 22-24 and 4-6 long respectively; claw longer than that of the foreleg, 7-12 long; other characters as in foreleg. Coxa connate with prominent sternal line; first setiferous tubercles set at the ahead of anterior coxal approximation; second tubercles placed a little ahead of the line between third coxal tubercles; coxae ornamented with short lines. Abdomen with 71-80 uniformly microtuberculate rings in both forms; microtubercules rounded and resting on ring margins; telosomal rings microstriated ventrally. Lateral seta 21-24 long, on ring 10-12; first ventral seta 42-48 long, on ring 24-26; second ventral seta 6-11 long, on ring 40-43; third ventral seta 18-23 long, on ring 7 from rear; caudal seta 48-54 long; accessory seta very small. Genitale 9-12 long, 19-21 wide, well behind the hind coxae; cover flap with 10-12 scorings in a single row; genital seta 7-12 long.

Male : Not seen.


Distribution: India : Bihar.

Relation to host: The mites were simple leaf vagrants on ventral surface of leaves. Some black spots were found on the leaves but it was not certain whether these spots were due to the infestation or not.
Fig 2: Aceria dasi sp. nov.
Remarks: Among the species of the genus Aceria Keifer having 3-rayed featherclaw this species comes close to *A. triplacis* Keifer (1960) by its granular lateral margin of shield, ornamented coxae, first setiferous coxal tubercles ahead of anterior coxal approximation, almost complete median shield line and rounded microtubercles but differs from *triplacis* by large number of short lines on coxae. Admedians connected with median by transverse line, structure of genital coverflap. This species is named after Dr. Asok Kumar Das, the collector of the specimens.

5. *Aceria randi* sp. nov.  
(Fig. 3)

**Female**: Body 137-162 long, 42-46 wide; worm-like; white in colour. Rostrum 14-18 long, projecting obliquely forward; subapical seta 4-6 long. Shield 22-28 long, 37-42 wide and broadly rounded in front; median line absent; admedian, first and second submedian lines complete, sinuate and little curved near rear end; admedian with prominent dart near rear end; third submedians broken; one lateral line occurring at 0.5 part of rear shield; dorsal tubercles on rear shield margin, 8-11 apart: setae 14-18 long, diverging to the rear. Foreleg 23-26 long from the base of trochanter: femur 6-8 long, seta 5-7 long; patella 3-5 long, seta 16-20 long; tibia 4-6 long, seta 2-4 long; tarsus 5-7 long with two upper setae, each 14-16 long; claw 4-6 long, simple; featherclaw 4-rayed. Hindleg from the trochanter base 21-24 long; patella 3-4 long, seta 7-9 long; claw 7-9 long; other characters as in foreleg. Coxa granular; first setiferous coxal tubercles located much ahead of anterior coxal approximation; second coxal tubercles on either sides of anterior coxal approximation and far ahead of transverse line through third coxal tubercles. Abdominal thanosome with 60-66 uniformly microtuberculate rings, micotubercules ovoid and resting on rear ring margins. Lateral seta 6-9 long, on ring 8-10: first ventral seta 32-40 long, on ring 19-22; second ventral seta 3-5 long, on ring 37-40. Telosome with 5-7 rings, almost smooth; telosomal seta 16-21 long; caudal seta 50-55 long; accessory seta 5-7 long. Genitalia 8-10 long, 16-19 wide; coverflap with 8 longitudinal lines; genital seta 4-5 long.

**Male**: Body 96-125 long, 42-44 wide.

**Holotype**: Female (marked), on slide (No. 826/32/85), India: West Bengal: Purulia, Hura forest, 6.vii.1985 from *Randia dumetorum* Lamk. (*Rubiacae*), Coll. N. K. GHOSH. **Paratypes**: 32 females on 8 slides (Nos. 826-833/32-85), collection data as in holotype.

**Distribution**: India: West Bengal.

**Relation to host**: This species inhabits inside the bead galls on either side of leaf surfaces. The galls are globose, sessile and filled with short white erineum. Size of galls is about 1.2-2 mm in diameter. Due to heavy infestations, numerous irregular bead galls develop on the leaf surfaces and as a result distortion of leaves occurs.

Remarks: Among the Indian species of the genus *Aceria* Keifer having 4-rayed featherclaw, this species very much resembles to *A. holopteleae* Channabasavanna (1966) and *A. justiciae* Channabasavanna (1966) mainly by the location of second coxal setae on either sides of the anterior coxal approximation, smooth telosomal rings and non-granular lateral margin of shield. However, the present species differs from both the species by the absence of median shield line, and granular coxae.

6. *Aceria sorghi* Channabasavanna


**Materials examined**: 36 females, India: West Bengal: Purulia, Hura forest, 12.ix.1985 from *Ficus cunea* Ham. (*Moraceae*), Coll. N. K. GHOSH.

**Distribution**: India: Karnataka, West Bengal.

**Relation to host**: This species along with two other species viz. *Tegolophus* sp. and *Diptilomiopus* sp. were collected from young leaves and apical buds of host plant. Due to their infestations no symptoms of injury was noticed.

Remarks: This species was originally described by CHANNA BASAVANNA (1966) from *Sorghum vul...*
Fig 3: Aceria randi sp. nov.
female Pers. (Gramineae). The present material collected from *Ficus cunea* is very similar to *sorghii* in all essential characters but with 10-12 longitudinal ribs on female genital cover flap.

**Key to Indian Species of Aceria Keifer**

**Female:**

| 1. Featherclaw 7-rayed | 2 |
| Featherclaw less than 7-rays | 7 |
| 2. Second ventral setae on abdomen longer than third ventral setae | 3 |
| Second ventral setae on abdomen shorter than third ventral setae | 4 |
| 3. Dorsal shield setae as long as or longer than the length of rostrum; on *Stevharn officinarum* | 5 |
| Dorsal shield setae shorter than length of rostrum; on *Pongamia glabra, P. pinnata* | 6 |
| 4. First setiferous coxal tubercles further ahead of anterior coxal approximation | 5 |
| First setiferous coxal tubercles at the level of or below the anterior coxal approximation | 6 |
| 5. Forecoxae with longitudinal lines; genital cover flap with no more than 6 longitudinal lines; on *Bambusa vulgaris, Bambusa sp. bambusae* Channabasavanna | 7 |
| Forecoxae granulated; genital cover flap with more than 6 longitudinal lines; on *Allium sativum* | 8 |
| 6. Median shield line prominent; forecoxae separated; genital cover flap with 9-10 thick lines; on *Cynodon dactylon* | 9 |
| *dactylonae* Mohanasundaram | 10 |
| Median shield line faint; forecoxae fused; genital cover flap with 4 lines; on *Arundo donax* | 11 |
| *donacis* Mohanasundaram | 12 |
| 7. Featherclaw 6-rayed | 8 |
| Featherclaw less than 6-rayed | 23 |
| 8. Genital cover flap with longitudinal lines in two ranks | 9 |
| Genital cover flap with longitudinal lines in single rank | 10 |
| 9. Median shield line complete; shield sides without large number of short wavy lines; forecoxae ornamented; on *Mangifera indica* | 11 |
| *mangiferae* Sayed | 12 |
| Median shield line incomplete; shield sides with numerous short wavy lines; forecoxae smooth; on *Cordia dichotoma* | 13 |
| *dichotomae* Mohanasundaram | 14 |
| 10. Lateral margin of shield with closely set longitudinal fine scorings | 11 |
| Lateral shield margin without such scorings | 12 |
| 11. Median shield line complete; coxae smooth; on *Cajanus cajan* | 13 |
| *cajani* Channabasavanna | 14 |
| Median shield line incomplete; coxae with thick lines and dots; on *Aristida setacea* | 15 |
| *setaceus* Mohanasundaram | 16 |
| 12. Abdomen with unevenly distributed microtubercles dorsoventrally | 13 |
| Abdomen with uniformly placed microtubercles dorsally and ventrally | 14 |
| 13. Microtubercules elongate, closely placed dorsally and sparsely placed laterally and ventrally; claw simple; on *Sorghum vulgare and Ficus cunea* | 15 |
| *sorghii* Channabasavanna | 16 |
| Microtubercules oval, sparsely placed dorsally and ventrally and closely placed laterally; claw knobbed; on *Eragrastis tenella* | 17 |
| *eragrastae* Mohanasundaram | 18 |
| 14. Forecoxae smooth | 15 |
| Forecoxae with a few lines or granules | 16 |
| 15. Shield surface almost with all standard lines; genital cover flap with 16-20 longitudinal lines; on *Balantites aegyptiaca* | 17 |
| *balanites* (Massee) | 18 |
| Shield surface almost smooth except for a short admedian line near the rear margin; genital cover flap with 10-12 longitudinal lines; on *Acacia leucophloeae* | 19 |
| *leucophloeae* Mohanasundaram | 20 |
| 16. First setiferous coxal tubercles a little below the anterior coxal approximation | 17 |
| First setiferous coxal tubercles at the level or above the first coxal junction | 20 |
| 17. Admedian and submedian shield lines connected by a wavy cross line; microtubercules elongate; on *Cymbo- pogon martini* | 18 |
| *cymbopogonis* (Mohanasundaram & Subramaniam) | 19 |
| No such cross line connecting admedian and submedians | 20 |
| 18. Lateral shield margin without granules; on *Commelina jacob* | 19 |
| *commelinae* (Mohanasundaram) | 20 |
| Lateral shield margin granular | 21 |
| 19. Hind coxae with a bold oblique line laterad of third coxal tubercle; genital cover flap with 16 longitudinal lines; on *Eriithrina indica* | 20 |
| *erythrinae* Channabasavanna | 21 |
| Hind coxae granular around the setiferous tubercles; genital cover flap with 6-8 longitudinal lines; on *Ficus bengalensis* | 22 |
| *benyi* Mohanasundaram | 23 |
| 20. Median shield line absent; on *Erythrina sublobata* | 21 |
| *erythrensis* (Chakrabarti and Ghosh) | 22 |
| Median shield line present | 23 |
21. Shield surface not granular; coxae with granules around tubercles; genital coverflap with 8-10 longitudinal lines; on *Bassia latifolia* ................................................................. *bassiae* sp. nov.

Shield surface granular; coxae with short lines 22

22. Median shield line incomplete; area between first and second submedians lacking fine short lines; genital coverflap with 16 longitudinal lines; on *Sapindus saponaria* .......................... *sapindi* Channabasavana

Median shield line complete; area between first and second submedians with fine short lines; genital coverflap with 10-12 longitudinal lines; on *Polygala chinensis* ............... *polygalae* Mohanasundaram

23. Featherclaw 5-rayed ........................................ 24

Featherclaw less than 5-rayed .............................. 33

24. Second ventral setae on abdomen longer than third ventral setae. ............................ 25

Second ventral setae on abdomen shorter than third ventral setae. .............................. 26

25. Lateral shield margin with closely set longitudinal fine wrinkles; hind coxae smooth; genital coverflap with fine closely set longitudinal lines; on *Ipomoea staphylina* ............................. *gastrotrichus* (Nalepa)

Lateral shield margin lacking such wrinkles; coxae granular; genital coverflap with only 6 lines; on *Acacia* sp. ...................................................... *acaciae* (Mohanasundaram)

26. Abdominal microtubercules stronger ventrally, suppressed on the dorsum; on *Medicago sativa* .............. *medicaginum* (Keifer)

Abdominal microtubercules more or less evenly developed dorsally and ventrally. .......................... 27

27. Shield design usually indistinct, when distinct the first and second submedian lines confluent ahead of dorsal tubercles; on *Citrus limonia* ................................. *sheldoni* (Ewing)

Shield design usually distinct and first and second submedian lines not confluent. ........................ 28

28. Genital setae longer than the length of genitalia .......................................................... 29

Genital setae not longer than the length of genitalia ......................................................... 30

29. Median shield line present; coxae granular; genital coverflap with longitudinal lines; on *Ficus indica* ................................................................. *infectoriae* Channabasavana

Median shield line absent; coxae and genital coverflap smooth; on *Exoeccaria agallocha* .................. *agallochae* Mohanasundaram

30. Coxae smooth; on *Morus alba* .... *mori* (Keifer)

Coxae granulated or tuberculated. .......................... 31

31. Coxae granular; on *Ficus carica* .... *ficus* (Cotte)

Coxae strongly tuberculated ........................................ 32

32. Median shield line almost complete with a dart shaped mark near rear shield margin; on *Litchi chinensis* .................................................. *litchi* (Keifer)

Median shield line on 0.5 part of rear shield, without a dart shaped mark; on *Crotalaria junceae*, *Adina sessilifolia* ............................. *crotalariae* Channabasavana

33. Featherclaw 3-rayed; admedian shield lines connected with median shield line at 0.6 part of shield; on *Diospyros melanoxylon* ............................... *dasi* sp. nov.

Featherclaw 4-rayed; admedian shield lines not connected with median line ............................. 34

34. Second setiferous coxal tubercles placed at the level of anterior coxal approximation ................... 35

Second setiferous coxal tubercles placed well behind of the anterior coxal approximation. 37

35. Coxae finely granular; median shield line absent; on *Randia dametorum* ....................... *randi* sp. nov.

Coxae smooth; median shield line present ................................................................. 36

36. Median shield line clearly present on rear 0.5 part of shield; antero lateral shield margin with 3 diagonal lines; on *Justicia betonica* ............................................. *justiciae* Channabasavana

Median shield line faintly present; anterolateral shield margin without any diagonal lines; on *Holoptelea integrifolia* ................................. *holopteleae* Channabasavana

37. Shield surface smooth; on *Setaria italicua*, *Indigofera heterantha*, *Bougainvillea* sp. .......................... *ladukhensis* (Rishi and Rather)

Shield surface with lines or granules ........................ 38

38. Shield surface with faint or broken lines .... 39

Shield surface with prominent longitudinal lines .... 42

39. First setiferous coxal tubercles at the ahead of anterior coxal approximation; on *Buechneria andamanensis* ......... *danikharieinis* Mohanasundaram and Sharma

First setiferous coxal tubercles placed at the level of fore coxal approximation ........................ 40

40. Coxae ornamented with lines; on *Cordia* sp. ................ *boriginare* Mohanasundaram

Coxae smooth .......................................................... 41

41. Accessory setae absent; telosome uniformly microtuberculate; genital coverflap with 14-16 longitudinal lines; on unidentified plant ........................................ *jogimatiensis* Mohanasundaram and Jagadish

Accessory setae present; telosome with reduced microtubercules dorsally; genital coverflap with 10-12 longitudinal lines; on unidentified plant ........................... *wandoorensis* Mohanasundaram and Sharma

42. Shield without any longitudinal lines on its central area .............................................. 43

Shield with one or more longitudinal lines on its central area ........................................... 46
43. Transverse line near rear shield margin absent .................. 44
   Transverse line near rear shield margin present .................. 45
44. Lateral margin of shield strongly granulated; genital cover flap with 10-12 longitudinal lines; on Jasminum pubescens .......... jasmini Channabasavanna
   Lateral margin of shield smooth; genital cover flap with 4-6 thin lines; on Dolichodendron spathacea .................. leptothrix (Nalepa)
45. Transverse line sinuate; genital setae very short, inconspicuous; on Gossypium herbaceum ....... puttarudriahi Channabasavanna
   Transverse line evenly arched; genital setae conspicuous and as long as genitalia; on Nerium odorum ............. nerii Channabasavanna
46. Median shield line forked and form a trapezium on rear 0.5 part of shield; genital cover flap with indistinct longitudinal scorings only on the middle; on Strobilanthes sp ... nandidtsis Channabasavanna
   Median shield line not forked and no trapezium is formed; longitudinal scorings on genital cover flap evenly distributed over the entire width .......... 47
47. Lateral shield margin granular .......... 48
   Lateral shield sides without granules ....... 50
48. Coxae ornamented with lines; median shield line with a dart near rear shield margin; on Punica granatium .... granati (Canestrini and Messalongo)
   Coxae almost smooth; median shield line simple, not branched near rear .................. 49
49. Median shield line almost complete; abdomen uniformly microtuberculate; on Mallotus philippinensis .......... malloticola (Mohanasundaram)
   Median shield line indistinct; abdomen microtubercules slightly sparser dorsally; on Solanum melongena, Lycopersica esculentum .... lycopersici (Wolfe)
50. Second coxal tubercules much ahead and close to first coxal tubercules ........... 51
   Second coxal tubercles far below of first coxal tubercules .......... 52
51. Median shield line only on anterior half of shield; admedian and submedians absent; on Dalbergia sissoo ........ dalbergiae Channabasavanna
   Median shield line complete; admedian and submedians present; on Cordia myxa ........... cordiae Channabasavanna
52. Admedian lines complete ............. 53
   Admedian lines incomplete .................. 54
53. Median line present only on rear 0.33 part of shield; lateral shield sides with fine scorings; on Barleria crista .......... barleriuae Channabasavanna
   Median line complete; lateral shield sides without such scorings; on Bueiniteria aspera ........... bueiniteriae Mohanasundaram
54. Two median shield lines occur at the central shield; coxae granular; on Ficus sp .......... postulatus Mohanasundaram
   Median shield line one; coxae smooth .......... 55
55. Abdomen with oblong, closely set microtubercles which are not touching the ring margins; lateral margin of shield with a wing like expansion near rear margin; on Clerodendron inerme, C. viscosum ........... clerodendrones Farkas
   Abdomen with more or less oval microtubercules, touching rear ring margin; lateral margin of shield without any wing like expansion; on Ruellia patula .......... ruelliae Channabasavanna

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are thankful to the University Grants Commission for financing the work and to the Head, Department of Zoology, University of Kalyani, for providing the laboratory facilities.

REFERENCES


Mohanasundaram (M. M.), 1982. — Indian eriophyid studies — III. Acarologia, 23 (3) : 249-263.
Mohanasundaram (M. M.), 1983. — Seven new eriophyid mites (Eriophyoidea : Acarina) from Tamil Nadu, India. — Entomon, 8 (2) : 169-178.