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A NEW HOMONYME IN THE GENUS PODOTHROMBIUM BERLESE, 1910
(ACARI, ACTINEDIDA, TROMBIDIIDAE)

BY G. GABRYŚ *

SUMMARY: Podothrombium montanum Shiba, 1969 is a junior homonyme of Podothrombium montanum Berlese, 1910. Podothrombium shibai nom. nov. is a proposed name for Podothrombium montanum Shiba, 1969.


Podothrombium montanum was described by Berlese (1910 pp. 355-356) from Italy (Cansiglio; Tiarno; Vallombrosa). Two years later (Berlese, 1912) a figure and a detailed description were added to the diagnosis. In the description, the author emphasized tarsus I considerably longer than tibia I and this character included the species within the "brevipedes" group (a key to species of Podothrombium, p. 61, op. cit.). P. montanum Berlese, 1910 was mentioned in many works of successive authors (Schweizer, 1922, 1951; Thor and Willmann 1947; Schweizer and Bader, 1963; Robaux, 1967) and was never contested.

Shiba (1969, pp. 111-113) described Podothrombium montanum n. sp. from Japan ("... the subalpine coniferous forest at Otanomosu-no-taira in Shiga Heights, Nagano Prefecture", p. 65, op. cit.). Several characters allow to maintain that these two are separate species, all the more so as P. montanum Shiba, 1969 undoubtedly is a member of the "longipedes" group (tibia I longer than tarsus I). The name Podothrombium montanum Shiba, 1969 then, as a preoccupied, appears a junior homonyme of Podothrombium montanum Berlese, 1910.

In September 1985, I informed Dr M. Shiba about revealing the homonyme and unfortunately I have not received an answer. According to the fellow-workers' code, after an expiration of one year, a new name should be substituted for the preoccupied.

According to these, a name Podothrombium shibai nom. nov. is proposed for Podothrombium montanum Shiba, 1969, to honour a man who discovered the species.

REFERENCES

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