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NEW SPECIES OF ERIOPHYID MITE FROM CUBA

BY P. NATCHIEFF *

PLANT PARASITE
ERIOPHYES COCOLOBI
COCOLOBA UVIFERA
CUBA

SUMMARY: A new species of Eriophyid mite on the leaves of Cocoloba uvifera Jacq. (Poligonaceae) is described.

Résumé: Une espèce d’Acarien eriophyide récoltée à Cuba sur les feuilles de Cocoloba uvifera Jacq. (Poligonaceae) est décrite et figurée.

This new species has been collected on the leaves of Cocoloba uvifera Jacq., known under the popular name of “uva caleta” which is used in medicine as a constipate (TOMAS ROIG Y MESA, 1962).

Eriophyes cocolobi n. sp. (Fig. 1)

Female 147.30 (± 1.22) μm long (average of 15 specimens); 58.50 (± 1.36) μm wide; 61.75 (± 1.15) μm thick; wormlike in shape; yellowish in colour. Rostrum 18.20 μm long, small, projecting forward and curving down; antapical seta 5.85 μm long. Shield 31.20 μm long 48.10 μm wide, subsemicircular in dorsal view. Shield lines very undistinct, present in the central part of the shield ending before the posterior end of the submedial lines, near to dorsal tubercles, there is no central line. Dorsal tubercles 17.00 μm apart. Dorsal setae 26.00 μm long, directed to the rear and diverging. Foreleg 35.10 μm long; tibia 5.85 μm with seta 7.80 μm long at 1/3; tarsus 7.80 μm long; featherclaw 4-rayed. Hindlegs 29.10 μm long, tibia 5.20 μm long, tarsus 7.15 μm long, claw 9.10 long. Coxae ornamented with sparse little rounded granules; anterior coxae broadly joint along central line. First setiferous coxal tubercles little ahead of line across third tubercles. Abdominal thanosome with about 54 (53-55) rings completely set with microtubercles which bear a very dark spot on the last part of the tubercles. The tubercles are set just to rear of ring margins. Lateral seta 10.40 μm long on the ring 7; first ventral seta 28.00 μm long on the ring 20; second ventral seta 6.30 μm long on the 31 ring. Telosome with 5 rings, the microtubercles are very weak, pointed, only on the ventral part. Seta of first telosomal ring 26.00 μm long. Accessory seta 2.60 μm long. Female genitalia 22.10 μm wide and 10.70 μm long. Coverflap with about 10 longitudinal ribs; genital seta 9.10 μm long. Line between setiferous tubercles arching anteriorly between these tubercles touching spermathecal opening centrally.

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Male not studied.

Type locality: Cuba, Gramma — La Clorada. Collected by the author, January 1981.

Host: Cocoloba uvifera Jacq. (Poligonaceae).

Relation to host: the mite makes dark green spots on the upper surface of the leaves which are brown on the under surface and covered with brown erineum. They are round and occupy the place around the nerves. Very often the damage occupy a big part of the leaf.

Type material: a type slide in the author’s collection, four paratype slides and some mites in alcohol.
Discussion: This is the first eriophyid mite on Cocoloba plants (DAVIES et al., 1982). The feather-claw is compact in its central part and divided rays rise to all sides. In relation to other species, it resembles Eriophyes holodisci K. and differs from it by the picture of the dorsal shield, the structure of the microtubercles and the number of the thanosomal rings.

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