Acarologia is a quarterly journal of acarology, since 1959. Publishing on all aspects of the Acari.

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 €
- 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.
A NEW SPECIES OF *ATELEPALME* (ACARI : TROMBICULIDAE) FROM VENEZUELA

BY

James M. Brennan and M. Lee Goff

ABSTRACT

*Atelopalme ralfi* is described as new from the Eastern Cottontail Rabbit, *Sylvilagus floridanus*, Venezuela.

**RÉSUMÉ**


BRENNAN and REED (1973) proposed the genus *Atelopalme* to accommodate a single species, *Atelopalme smarma*, taken from the Cane Mouse, *Zygodontomys brevicauda*, in Venezuela. A second species, also from Venezuela, is described here from the Eastern Cottontail Rabbit, *Sylvilagus floridanus*, and the Vesper Mouse, *Calomys laucha*.

The holotype is in the collection of the National Museum of Natural History (currently housed at the Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii) and paratypes there and in the collection of the Bishop Museum.

*Atelopalme ralfi*, n. sp.

*Type data*: Holotype and 6 paratypes from Venezuela, Falcon, 49 km N, 34 km W of Coro (Moruy), *ex*: the Eastern Cottontail Rabbit, *Sylvilagus floridanus* taken 17.VII.1968.

*Diagnosis*: Palpal setal formula B/B/BBB/7B; palpal claw-3 pronged; galeala B; eyes 2/2; PL setae on scutum; PW/SD = 1.45; sensilla flagelliform; 3 genualae I, genuala II and III;

1. Supported in part by Department of the Army contract DA-49-193-MD-2788 with the Smithsonian Institution. Published with the approval of the Director of the Hawaii Agricultural Experiment Station as Journal Series No. 2129.
2. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818.
3. Entomology Department, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822 and Bishop Museum.

Figure 1: Larva of *Atelepalme ralfi*, n. sp. A) Scutum; B) Leg I, distal 3 segments showing specialized setae (measurements given in microns) and bases of branched setae; C) Leg II, as above; D) Leg III, as above.
tibiala and 2 mastitibialae III; subterminala and parasubterminala I; 3 mastitarsalae III; IP = 760-790.

**Description of species** (All measurements given in microns of the holotype followed by means and extremes of paratypes in parentheses): Larvae.

**Idiosoma**: Measuring 400 x 240 in engorged specimen. Eyes 2/2, anterior larger, on ocular plate. 2 humeral setae, measuring 32-35; 30 dorsal body setae, measuring 26-20, arranged 8-6-6-4-4-2; sternal setae 2 + 2, anterior 35, posterior 28-30; 24 preanal setae, 20-23; 22 postanal setae, 25-28. Total body setae 82. **Gnathosoma**: Palpal setal formula B/B/B/B/VB; palpal claw 3-pronged; galeala B; chela (34) with tricuspid cap; gnathobase sparsely punctate with a pair of branched setae. **Scutum**: Sparsely punctate; straight anterior margin; posterior margin evenly rounded; AM base in line with AL bases; SB slightly anterior to PL bases; PL setae on scutum; PL = AM > AL; sensilla flagelliform, with basal barbs, branched distally; PW/SD = 1.45. Scutal measurements: AW 48 (49, 48-50); PW 61 (61, 59-63); SB 19 (19, 19-20); ASB 22 (22, 19-25); PSB 20 (20, 20-21); AP 21 (22, 20-24); AM 30 (30, 28-30); AL 25 (26, 23-28); PL 30 (31, 30-33); Sens. 50 (53, 50-58). **Legs**: All 7-segmented, terminating in a pair of claws and a claw-like empodium. Onychotriches absent. IP = 760-790. **Leg I**: 260-270; coxa with 1 branched seta (1B); trochanter 1B; basifemur 1B; telofemur 5B; genu 4B, 3 genualae, microgenuala; tibia 8B, 2 tibialae, microtibiala; tarsus (60 x 16) 16B, tarsala (13), microtarsala, subterminala, parasubterminala, pretarsala. **Leg. II**: 230-240; coxa 1B; trochanter 1B; basifemur 2B; telofemur 4B; genu 3B, genuala; tibia 6B, 2 tibialae; tarsus (55 x 15) 16B, tarsala (18), microtarsala, pretarsala. **Leg. III**: 270-280; coxa 1B; trochanter 1B; basifemur 2B; telofemur 3B; genu 3B, genuala; tibia 4B, tibiala, 2 mastitibialae; tarsus (80 x 12) 12B, 3 mastitarsalae.

**Remarks**: In the original description of *Atelepalme smarma*, the number of dorsal body setae in the first posthumeral row was given as 6. Reexamination of the holotype of *A. smarma* showed 8 setae in that row. Thus the number and arrangement of dorsal body setae is identical in both *A. smarma* and *A. ralfi*. These 2 species may be separated by the PL setae being extrascutal in *A. smarma* and on the scutum in *A. ralfi*.

**Specimens examined** (66): Venezuela. Falcon, 49 km N, 34 km W of Coro (Moruy), 13-17. vII.1968, 1 Calomys laucha (5), 16 Sylvilagus floridanus (holotype + 60).

**LITERATURE CITED**
