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ECTONYX, A NEW NEOTROPICAL GENUS OF CHIGGERS
(ACARINA: TROMBICULIDAE)

BY

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ABSTRACT.

Described are Ectonyx new genus and the included 2 new species, E. fusicornis, genotype, off spiny pocket mouse, Liomys irroratus, Puebla, Mexico, and E. ovicornis, off spiny rat, Proechimys hendeei, Cuzco, Peru.

Ectonyx, new genus.

Trombiculid larvae of subfamily Trombiculinae. Superficially like Euschön-gastia. Scutum roughly pentagonal, the apex anterior. Sensillae expanded. Palpal tarsus with 4 branched setae and a tarsala. Tarsal claws asymmetrical, one broad and of usual form, the other narrow, like the empodium. At least tarsus I with subterminal nude setae.

Type species: Ectonyx fusicornis, new species.

The disparity in the tarsal claws is remindful of a similar irregularity in Gahr-lepia (Walchia) disparunguis (Oudemans). This unusual condition has suggested the generic name derived from the Greek ektonos ("out of tune") and onyx ("claw")

Ectonyx fusicornis, new species.

Fig. 1.

Type data: Holotype and 9 paratypes, RML No. 35178, off spiny pocket mouse, Liomys irroratus, Puebla, Mexico, 8 September 1950, G. W. WHARTON, collector. Holotype and a paratype in the United States National Museum. Other paratypes in the Rocky Mountain Laboratory, the British Museum (Natural History), and the Chicago Natural History Museum.

Diagnosis: Distinguished from *E. ovicornis*, new species, by the fusiform sensillae and greater number of dorsal setae.

Body: Broad-ellipsoidal. Length and width of holotype, greatly engorged, 610 by 508 microns. Eyes small, 2/2, no plate. Anus at fourth row of ventral setae.


Scutum: Wider than long, sparsely punctate, anterior margin angulate, posterior margin slightly emarginate. Sensillary bases slightly anterior to posterolateral
Fig. 2. — *Ectonyx oviscornis*, new species.
Scutum and specialized setae of legs, measurements in microns.

Legs: Segments short and thick. Punctate. Specialized setae: Leg I-3 genualae, microgenualae; 2 tibialae of similar form, microtibialae; tarsala, microtarsala, sub- and parasubterminala, pretarsala. Leg II — genuala; 2 tibialae; tarsala, microtarsala, pretarsala. Leg III — genuala; tibiala. Branched setae: Leg I — coxa 1, trochanter 1, basifemur 1, telofemur 5, genu 4, tibia 8, tarsus 18. Leg II — coxa 1, trochanter 1, basifemur 2, telofemur 4, genu 3, tibia 6, tarsus 14. Leg III — coxa 1, trochanter 1, basifemur 2, telofemur 3, genu 3, tibia 6, tarsus 12. All tarsi with unpaired claws and a long empodium. Tarsus I with 2 or 3 subterminal nude setae; tarsus II with apparently 1 subterminal nude seta.

Body setae: Dorsal setae 28 to 44 microns long, decreasing in length posteriorly; 2 humerals plus about 60. Ventral setae, 2-2 sternals plus about 60, postanals like the dorsals.

Ectonyx ovicornis, new species.

Type data: Holotype and 3 paratypes RML No. 33549, off spiny rat, Proechimys hendeei, Quince Mil, Cuzco, Peru, 8 August 1953, C. Kalinowski, collector. Holotype in the Chicago Natural History Museum, paratypes in the Rocky Mountain Laboratory, and the United States National Museum.

Diagnosis: Distinguished from E. fusicornis by the broad ovate sensillae, fewer dorsal setae, and subterminal nude setae on all tarsi.

Body: Broad-ellipsoidal. Length and width of holotype, heavily engorged, 525 by 412 microns. Eyes apparently only 1/1, at least, posterior eyes not discernible in any specimen. Anus at third row of ventral setae.

Gnathosoma: Similar to that of type species, except that condition of galeal seta can not be determined.


Legs: Form and setation as in type species except that the branched setae have longer branches and the tarsi have fewer branched setae. Two or 3 subterminal nude setae on all tarsi.

Body setae: Dorsal setae 34 to 41 microns long, 2 humerals plus about 30. Ventral setae, 2-2 sternals plus about 30.