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 2018 (Volume 58): 380 €
http://www1.montpellier.inra.fr/CBGP/acarologia/subscribe.php

Previous volumes (2010-2016): 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.
Ixobrychiphilus, a new genus of the family Syringophilidae
(Acariformes: Prostigmata)

Maciej Skoracki¹, Mateusz Zmudzinski¹ and Piotr Solarczyk²

(Received 21 April 2016; accepted 08 September 2016; published online 05 January 2017; edited by Philippe Auger)

¹ Department of Animal Morphology, Faculty of Biology, Adam Mickiewicz University, Umultowska 89, 61-614 Poznan, Poland.
skoracki@amu.edu.pl, mat.zmudzinski@gmail.com
² Department of Biology and Medical Parasitology, Medical Faculty I, Poznan University of Medical Sciences, 10 Fredry Street, 61-701 Poznan, Poland. psolar@ump.edu.pl

ABSTRACT — A new monotypic genus of parasitic mites is proposed for Ixobrychiphilus wallacei n. gen., n. sp. (Acariformes: Prostigmata: Syringophilidae) collected from Ixobrychus cinnamomeus (Gmelin) (Pelecaniformes: Ardeidae) from China. This new genus is morphologically similar to Niglarobia Kethley, 1970 but differs by the presence of a full complement of leg setae (vs. setae vsII absent in Niglarobia), propodonotal setae arranged 2-1-1-1-1 (vs. 2-1-1-2), and legs I thicker than II (vs. legs I and II equal in thickness).

KEYWORDS — birds; ectoparasites; quill mites; Pelecaniformes; Syringophilidae

ZOOBANK — 3A9C5AE8-7189-4EAB-B1F7-1EC42C426814

INTRODUCTION

Quill mites of the family Syringophilidae Lavoir-Lavoipierre (Acariformes: Prostigmata: Cheyletoidea) are permanent, obligatory, and host-specific (mono- or stenoxenous) parasites associated with birds belonging to 24 orders (Skracki et al. 2012; Glowska et al. 2015). They are found inside the quills of different types of feathers: primaries, secondaries, tertials, coverts, rectrices, and contour feathers (Kethley 1970; Skoracki 2011).

The family is an assemblage of approximately 330 species of 60 genera described from all zoogeographical regions except Antarctica (Glowska et al. 2015).

A new genus is established herein for a new species Ixobrychiphilus wallacei n. gen., n. sp., collected from the quills of the Cinnamon Bittern Ixobrychus cinnamomeus (Gmelin) (Pelecaniformes: Ardeidae) from China. The host order, Pelecaniformes includes 108 species grouped in five families: Ardeidae, Balaenicipitidae, Pelecanidae, Scopidae, Threskiornithidae (Clements et al. 2015), and up to now, only one species of syringophilid mites has been recorded from this host order - Trypetotila casmerodia Kethley, 1970 found on the Great Egret Ardea alba egretta (Linnaeus) (Ardeidae) in the United States (Kethley 1970).

It clearly shows how far we are from the full knowledge about diversity of quill mites parasitising this group of birds.
MATERIALS AND METHODS

The material used in the present study was collected by MZ and PS from dry bird skins deposited in the Bavarian State Collection of Zoology, Munich, Germany. Mites were collected from quills of contour feathers and before mounting, they were softened and cleared in Nesbitt’s solution at 40°C for 1-2 days. For study, mites were mounted on slides in the Hoyer’s medium according to the standard technique for these mites (Walter and Krantz 2009). Identifications and drawings of mite specimens were carried out with a ZEISS Axioscope-2 (Carl-Zeiss AG, Germany) light microscope equipped with DIC optics and camera lucida. In the descriptions below, the idiosomal setation follows Grandjean (1939) as adapted for Prostigmata by Kethley (1990). Nomenclature of leg setae follows that proposed by Grandjean (1944). Morphological terminology follows Skoracki (2011). All measurements are in micrometers (µm). Measurement ranges for paratypes are given in brackets following the data for a holotype. Specimen depositories are cited using the following abbreviations: AMU, A. Mickiewicz University, Department of Animal Morphology, Poznan, Poland; ZSM, Bavarian State Collection of Zoology, Munich, Germany.

DESCRIPTIONS

Family Syringophilidae Lavoipierre, 1953
Subfamily Syringophilinae Lavoipierre, 1953

Ixobrychiphilus n. gen.

Zoobank: BEEDD67E-9954-4954-B469-32B6FE2B4ADE


Male: Unknown.

Type species — Ixobrychiphilus wallacei n. sp.

Etymology — The name “Ixobrychiphilus” is taken from the generic name of the host – Ixobrychus, and philus (Gr. phileo – lover of).

Differential diagnosis — This new genus is morphologically similar to Niglarobia Kethley, 1970 associated with charadriiform birds. In females of both species, the lateral hypostomal teeth are absent; the apodemes I are parallel and not fused to the apodemes II; the stylophore is without large tip on the posterior margin. This new genus is distinguished by the following features: in females of Ixobrychiphilus, propodonotal setae are arranged 2-1-1-1-1; legs I are thicker in comparison to legs II; legs I-IV are with full complement of setae, and claws of legs I-IV are without the basal angles. In females of Niglarobia, propodonotal setae are arranged 2-1-1-2; legs I and II are equal in thickness; leg setae vsII are absent, and claws of legs I-IV are with the basal angles.

Ixobrychiphilus wallacei n. sp.
(Figures 1 and 2)

Zoobank: 887362D8-01C7-4376-B217-2EAE1B473E95

Description — Female: Total body length 500 in holotype (490 – 540 in 5 paratypes). Gnathosoma. Infraeapitulum punctate. Movable cheliceral digit 115 (105 – 115) long. Each medial branch of peritremes with 1 chamber, each lateral branch with 4-5 chambers. Stylophore punctate, with striate ornament, 150 (140 – 150) long. Idiosoma. Propodonotal shield weakly sclerotized, anterior and posterior margins indiscernible, bearing bases of setae vi, ve, si, se, and c1, surface of this shield punctate in middle part. Bases of setae se situated anterior to level of setae c1. Hysteronotal shield apunctate, situated between bases of setae dI and e2, not fused to pygidial shield. Pygidial shield well sclerotized, apunctate, with incision on anterior margin. Setae
FIGURE 1: *Ixobrychiphilus wallacei* n. sp., female: A – dorsal view; B – ventral view.
FIGURE 2: Ixobrychiphilus wallacei n. sp., female: A – gnathosoma in ventral view; B – peritremes; C – solenidia of leg I; D – tarsus I in dorsal view; E – tarsus I in ventral view; F – tarsus II in ventral view; G – tarsus III in lateral view.

f₂ 2.8–3.6 times longer than f₁. Length ratio of setae ag₁ag₂ag₃ 1:1:1–1.5. Genital plate absent. Pseudanal setae ps₁ and ps₂ subequal in length. Genital setae g₁ and g₂ subequal in length. Legs. Coxal fields I-IV apunctate, well sclerotized. Fan-like setae p' and p'' of legs III and IV with 10 tines. Setae 4c about twice as long as 4b. All solenidia of leg I subequal in length. Lengths of setae: vi 30 (25 – 50), ve 80 (75 – 90), si 135 (120 – 135), se 195 (180 – 210), c₁ 180 (170 – 220), c₂ 180 (160 – 190), d₁ 120 (110 – 130), d₂ 145 (130 – 145), e₂ 115 (90 – 120), f₁ 30 (25 – 30), f₂ 85 (85 – 90), h₁ 20 (20 – 30), h₂ 310 (280 – 310), p₁ 20 (15 – 25), p₂ 20 (15 – 25), g₁ 30 (25 – 35), g₂ 30 (25 – 35), ag₁ 110 (80 – 120), l'RIII 40 (35 – 40), 4b (40 – 45), 4c (90).

Male: Not found.

Type material deposition — All type specimens are deposited in the AMU, except 1 female paratype in the ZSM.

Etymology — The species is named in honor of a British naturalist, biologist, explorer, and geographer, Alfred Russel Wallace.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank Gerhard Haszp Grunar and Markus Unsoeld (ZSM) for making available samples of dry bird skins for the present study. Studies provided in the ZSM were supported by the Polish National Science Centre (NCN 2014/15/B/NZ8/00208), and German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) (A/12/05065).

REFERENCES


Copyright

Skoracki M. et al. Acarologia is under free license. This open-access article is 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.