

A NEW SPECIES OF SUB GROUP *ERIOPHYOIDES* (*TENUIPALPUS*: *TENUIPALPIDAE*: ACARINA) FROM PUNJAB — PAKISTAN

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ERIOPHYOIDES,
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SUMMARY: Only *T. eriophyoides* BAKER, of the *eriophyoides* subgroup was known from Pakistan. *T. yarensis* sp. n. is a new addition to this sub-group and both these species were collected from date palms in Pakistan.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Tenuipalpus* is a large, widespread cosmopolitan genus. It was created by DONNADIEU in 1875 based on his new species *Tenuipalpus palmatus*, however, VITZTHUM (1929) was the first to designate it as the type species. PRITCHARD & BAKER (1958) synonymized *T. palmatus* with *T. caudatus* (Dugés, 1834). BAKER (1948) described *Tenuipalpus eriophyoides* based on a nymph collected from Date Palm in Iraq. BAKER and TUTTLE (1972) described the male and female of this species from the same locality and same host plant and subsequently transferred it to the genus *Colopalpus*. CHAUDHRI *et al.* (1974) redescribed *Colopalpus eriophyoides* (Baker) from Date Palm in Pakistan. MEYER (1979) synonymized the genus *Colopalpus* with *Tenuipalpus*, thus species *eriophyoides* was also transferred to genus *Tenuipalpus* Donnadieu. MEYER (1993) created a new sub-group *eriophyoides* in the genus *Tenuipalpus* to accommodate those species having 4 pairs setae *IC4a*, and one pair of setae *IC3a*. A new addition to this subgroup, from Pakistan, is described here.

1. *TENUIPALPUS YARENSIS* n. sp. (FIG. 1. A-D)

FEMALE: Dorsum: Body slender length 338 μ m (without rostrum), 149 μ m wide. Prodorsum with smooth oval area medially surrounded by striae and punctations. Prodorsal setae 3 pairs: *v2* 9 μ m, *sc1* 10 μ m both setiform, serrate, seta *sc2* slightly lanceolate, serrate 19 μ m long (FIG. 1. A).

Opisthosoma anteromedially with a small smooth area, bearing setae *c1* and *d1*, surrounded by striae and punctations, covering most of opisthosoma. Three pairs of central setae simple: *c1* 14 μ m, *d1* 16 μ m, *e1* 15 μ m. Lateral setae 7 pairs, slightly lanceolate, serrate: *c3* 9 μ m, *d2* 8 μ m, *e2* 9 μ m, *e3* 10 μ m, *f2* 9 μ m, *h2* flagellate 40 μ m, *h1* 8 μ m in length, all shorter than distances to setae next behind except for *h2*. One pair pores anterolateral 1 to *e1* present (FIG. 1. A).

VENTER: Venter with longitudinal striations. Intercoxal setae *IC1a* one pair 45 μ m, *IC3a* one pair 22 μ m, *IC4a* 4 pairs, measuring from center, 26 μ m, 31 μ m, 31 μ m and 35 μ m, all longer than distance to aggenital seta *ag* which measures 22 μ m, latter shorter than distance to genital setae. Genital shield setae slightly lanceolate, serrate: *g1* 10 μ m, *g2* 12 μ m, both

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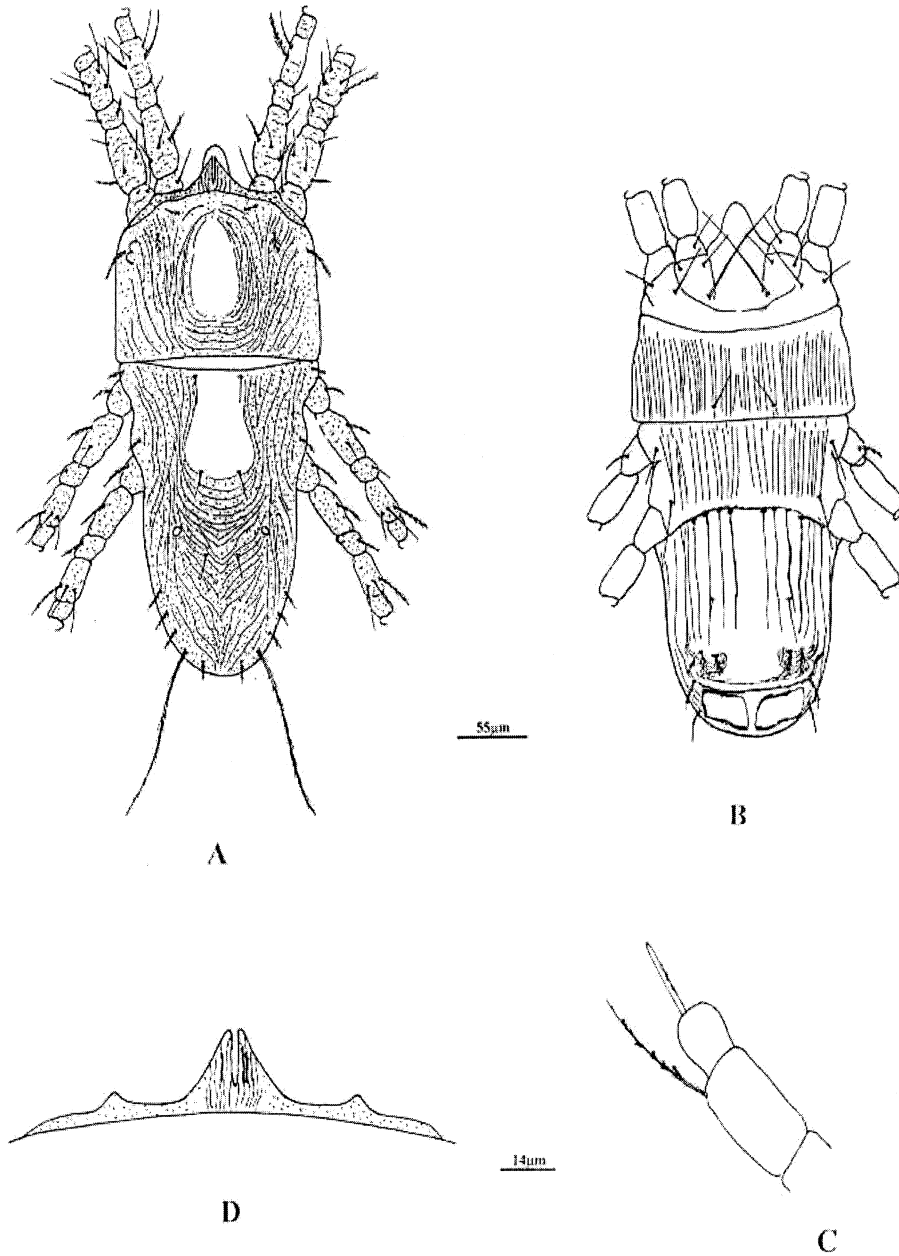


FIG. 1.

shorter than distance to anal setae. Anal shield simple, 2 pairs of setae, *ps1* slightly lanceolate, serrate 13 μm long, *ps2* simple 18 μm (FIG. 1. B).

GNATHOSOMA: Rostrum 1/3 length of femora 1. Rostral shield pitted with a few striations medially, deeply notched medially, with one ancillary lobe on

each side (FIG. 1. D). Palpus 3 segmented, terminal segment with 1 eupathidium, II segment with 1 barbed seta (FIG. 1. C).

LEGS: Setae on legs I-IV: Coxae 2-2-1-1, trochanters 1-1-1-1, femora 4-4-2-1, genua 2-2-1-1, tibiae 4-4-3-3, setae on tarsi difficult to count. Dorsal setae

on femora I and II about 3/4 the length of the respective segments (FIG. 1. A).

MALE: Unknown.

TYPE: Holotype female, collected by MANSOOR on Dates (*Phoenix dactylifera*) from R. Y. Khan on 28. 10. 1992; paratypes 1 female with same collection data, all deposited in the Acarology Research Laboratory Department of Agri. Entomology, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad - Pakistan.

REMARKS: This new species is closely related to *Tenuipalpus eriophyoides* (Baker) but the following characters distinguish them.

1. Intercoxal *IC4a* setae much longer than the distance to aggenital setae in this new species, but shorter in *T. eriophyoides*.
2. Ventral shield smooth in this new species opposed to striated in *T. eriophyoides*.
3. Anal seta *ps1* slightly lanceolate serrate in this new species whereas it is simple in *T. eriophyoides*.
- a. Tibiae I and II each with 4 setae in this new species whereas these segments have 5 setae each in *T. eriophyoides*.

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