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**LIMNESIA COOKI** N. SP. AND **PIONA HABEEBI** N. SP.,
TWO NEW SPECIES OF WATER MITES (ACARI : HYDRACHNELLAE)
FROM WESTERN CANADA

BY John C. CONROY *

**WESTERN CANADA HYDRACHNELLAE**

**ABSTRACT** : Two new species of lentic water mites (Acari : Hydrachnellae) are described : *Limnesia (Limnesia) cooki* n. sp. and *Piona habeebi* n. sp., from the Whiteshell Provincial Forest Reserve, Manitoba.

**HYDRACHNELLAE DE L’OUEST CANADIEN**

**RÉSUMÉ** : On décrit deux nouvelles espèces d’acariens aquatiques (Acari : Hydrachnellae) : *Limnesia (Limnesia) cooki* n. sp. et *Piona habeebi* n. sp., trouvées dans la Whiteshell Provincial Forest Reserve, Manitoba.

While examining collections made in 1964 and reported on in CONROY (1968), I came upon two undescribed species which had been put aside for future reference. All measurements given are in microns (µm). EP-I, EP-II, EP-III and EP-IV refer to the first, second, third and fourth epi-mera respectively. Paratype measurements are given in brackets. Bars on the figures represent 100 microns.

**Limnesia cooki** n. sp.

**Female** : Length between anterior end of EP-I and posterior end of genital field 515 (483) ; EP-I fused to each other ; posterior apodemes of anterior coxal group short (fig. 8) ; suture line between EP-III and EP-IV incomplete, with the Glandula Limnesiae located on EP-III ; epimero-glandularia I attached to EP-III ; genital field, including pregenital sclerite, 179 (189) in length, 116 (143) in width (fig. 2) ; dorsal lengths of palpal segments (fig. 1) : P-I, lost (32) ; P-II, 221 (242) ; P-III, 147 (157) ; P-IV, 357 (399) ; P-V, 53 (53) ; peg-like seta on P-II very short and not located on a tubercle ; P-IV with one ventral seta about mid-way down the segment ; general shape of palp is a gentle arc or curve ; dorsal lengths of the distal segments of the first leg (fig. 5) : I-Leg-4, 137 (147) ; I-Leg-5, 189 (200) ; I-Leg-6, 168 (179) ; dorsal lengths of the distal segments of the fourth leg (fig. 4) : IV-Leg-4, 210 (221) ; IV-Leg-5, 242 (267) ; IV-Leg-6, 242 (252) ; subterminal seta of IV-Leg-6, 137 (110) in length ; IV-Leg-4 with four swimming hairs ; IV-Leg-5 with two swimming hairs.

**Male** : Unknown.

**Holotype** : Adult female (mount WS-14-LL-I), from Lyon Lake, by the Trans-Canada Highway,

* Department of Biology, University of Winnipeg, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 2E9, Canada.

FIG. 1-4: *Limnesia cooki* n. sp. (1, 2, 4) and *Piona habeabi* n. sp. (3).
1. — Female palp. 2. — Female genital field. 3. — Male palp. 4. — Female IV-leg-5 and IV-leg-6.
FIG. 5-8: *Limnesia cooki* n. sp. (5, 8) and *Piona habeebi* n. sp. (6, 7).
5. — Female I-leg-5 and I-leg-6. 6. — Male III-leg-5 and III-leg-6. 7. — Male, ventral view. 8. — Female, ventral view.
in the Whiteshell Provincial Forest Reserve, Manitoba, on June 3, 1964. Specimen deposited in the Canadian National Collection, Biosystematics Research Institute, Ottawa.

Paratype: Adult female (mount TML-64-01), from Two Mile Lake, Duck Mountain Provincial Park, Manitoba, on July 21, 1964. Specimen in collection of the author.

Discussion: The new species can be readily separated from all other species of Limnesia by the combination of the shape of the palp, the absence of a tubercle for the spine on P-II, and the length of the palpal segments.

Piona habeebi n. sp.

Male: Length between anterior end of EP-I and posterior end of genital field 441; length to posterior end of excretory pore 473; EP-I/EP-II distinctly separated from EP-III/EP-IV; EP-I not contiguous on mid-ventral line (fig. 7); suture lines between EP-III and EP-IV incomplete; posterior corners of EP-IV projecting; genital field 252 wide; acetabular plates with 10-12 acetabula (fig. 7); excretory pore touching but not attached to genital plates; dorsum with one pair of small back plates; dorsal lengths of palpal segments: P-I, 26; P-II, 112; P-III, 55; P-IV, 107; P-V, 47; P-V with two small projections bearing fine setae towards the distal end; figure 3 shows the proportions and chaetotaxy of the palp; dorsal lengths of the distal segments of the third leg (fig. 6): III-Leg-4, 143; III-Leg-5, 182; III-Leg-6, 122; I-Leg-4 and I-Leg-5, each with two swimming hairs; II-Leg-4 and II-Leg-5, each with four swimming hairs; III-Leg-4 with two swimming hairs, III-Leg-5 with one swimming hair; IV-Leg-4 and IV-Leg-5, each with two swimming hairs.

Female: Unknown.

Holotype: Adult male (mount NL-64-06) from Nutimik Lake, Whiteshell Provincial Forest Reserve, Manitoba, on June 6, 1964. Specimen deposited in the Canadian National Collection, Biosystematics Research Institute, Ottawa.

Discussion: P. habeebi is closest to P. conglomerata (Koch) and P. conglomeratella Cook, differing from them most obviously in the failure of the EP-I to meet on the mid-ventral line; P. habeebi is similar to P. conglomerata in the appearance of the EP-III/EP-IV and in the presence of the pair of small plates on the dorsum; but differs from P. conglomerata in the non-fusion of the excretory pore to the genital plates, in the much smaller size of EP-III/EP-IV and of the palp; III-Leg-6 is longer in P. habeebi; P. habeebi is similar in size to P. conglomeratella, differing in the presence of the pair of small plates on the dorsum; in the appearance of the EP-III/EP-IV; in the size and shape of the genital region; and in the larger size of III-Leg-6 in the new species.

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References
