



Four new species of *Rotundabaloghia* Hirschmann, 1975 from East Africa (Acari: Uropodidae)

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Abstract

Six species of *Rotundabaloghia* Hirschmann, 1975 (Acari: Uropodidae) are reported from East Africa. *Rotundabaloghia splendida* **sp. nov.**, *R. bukavuensis* **sp. nov.**, *R. erinacea* **sp. nov.** and *R. lindqvistiformis* **sp. nov.** are described as new, and *R. ukoguruensis* Hirschmann, 1992 and *R. rwandae* Hirschmann, 1984 are re-described from newly-collected specimens. A key is provided for the 21 species of *Rotundabaloghia* that are known from East Africa.

Key words: Acari, *Rotundabaloghia*, Uropodidae, new species, East Africa

Introduction

The genus *Rotundabaloghia* Hirschmann, 1975 (Acari: Uropodidae) includes over 100 species from the tropical regions of the world, which together have a circum-tropical distribution (Hirschmann, 1975a, 1975b, 1975c; Wiśniewski, 1993; Wiśniewski & Hirschmann, 1993; Kotschán, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007). Hirschmann (1984) described the first African species, from Rwanda, and later reported 11 species from Tanzania (Hirschmann, 1992a). Recently Kotschán (2004) described four species from Kenya, but the genus is not known from other countries in East Africa. Four further East African species are described in the present paper, to bring the total number of species from this area to 21. Two known species were also collected, *R. ukoguruensis* Hirschmann, 1992 and *R. rwandae* Hirschmann, 1984, and further descriptive information is provided to supplement their original descriptions.

Material and methods

Specimens were cleared in lactic acid and later stored in alcohol. Drawings were made with a camera lucida. The specimens examined are deposited in the Collections of Soil Zoology of the Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest. Abbreviations: h1-h4, hypostomal setae, St1-St5, sternal setae. Nomenclature for the ventral idiosomal setae follows Hirschmann (1975a): V2, V6, V7 and V8 are the ventral setae, except that I use the name “adanal setae” instead of V4. Measurements are given in micrometres (µm). It was not possible to examine the type specimens of *R. rwandae* and *R. ukoguruensis*.