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Article



Description of a new species of Anisitsiellidae Koenike, 1910 (Acari, Hydrachnidia), the first record of the family from China

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Abstract

The species *Nilotonia* (*Dartia*) *lii* **sp. nov.** is described and figured from northwestern China. This is the first record of an anisitsiellid-like water mite in China.

Key words: Water mite, Nilotonia, China

Introduction

Considering the geographical location of China, a very rich fauna of water mites should be expected. Previously, seventeen families have been reported from China (Jin, 1997; Smit, 2002; Guo & Jin, 2005): Eylaidae Leach, 1815, Limnocharidae Grube, 1859, Hydryphantidae Piersig, 1896, Hydrodromidae Viets, 1936, Hydrachnidae Leach, 1815, Sperchontidae Thor, 1900, Lebertiidae Thor, 1900, Oxidae Viets, 1926, Teutoniidae Koenike, 1910, Limnesiidae Thor, 1900, Hygrobatidae Koch, 1842, Unionicolidae Oudemans, 1909, Pionidae Thor, 1900, Mideopsidae Koenike, 1910, Arrenuridae Thor, 1900 and Pontarachnidae Koenike, 1910. The species described in this paper belongs to the subgenus *Dartia* Soar, 1917 in the genus *Nilotonia* Thor, 1905 of the family Anisitsiellidae Koenike, 1910, which increases the number of known water mite families in the Chinese fauna to eighteen.

Material and methods

Two specimens of an anisitsiellid-like water mites species new to science were collected in Luyashan National Nature Reserve (111°50"-112°05"E, 38°35"-38°45"N), Shanxi province of northwestern China on 17 August 2002, by Guo Jianjun. The holotype, one male, and the paratype, one female, were dissected and slide - mounted in glycerine jelly, and deposited in the Institute of Entomology, Guizhou University.

The following abbreviations are used:

A1, A2	antennal glandularia 1 and 2.
ACG	anterior coxal group (CxI+ CxII).
CxI–CxIV	coxae I–IV.
D1-D4	dorsoglandularia 1-4.
E1-E4	epimeroglandularia 1-4.
L1–L4	lateroglandularia l-4.