



A contribution to the knowledge of the genus *Atractides* Koch, 1837 (Acari: Hydrachnidia, Hygrobatidae) in France

VLADIMIR PEŠIĆ¹, HARRY SMIT² & REINHARD GERECKE³

¹Department of Biology, University of Montenegro, Cetinjski put b.b., 81000 Podgorica, Montenegro. E-mail: vladopesic@gmail.com

²Netherlands Centre for Biodiversity Naturalis, P.O. Box 9517, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands. E-mail: harry.smit@ncbnaturalis.nl

³Biesingerstr. 11, Tübingen, 72070 Germany. E-mail: reinhard.gerecke@uni-tuebingen.de

Abstract

A list is given of the water mite material of the genus *Atractides* Koch, 1837 (Acari: Hydrachnidia, Hygrobatidae) deposited in the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle in Paris. *Atractides allgaier* Gerecke, 2003 and *A. remotus* Szalay, 1948 are recorded for the first time for France. From running waters in central-southern France, *Atractides marsus* n. sp. and *A. angelieri* n. sp. are described.

Key words: Acari, water mites, new species, running waters, France

Introduction

During preparative work for a check list of French water mites, Smit & Gerecke (2010) decided to leave open questions concerning two species of the genus *Atractides* until the water mite collection E. Angelier (MNHN Paris) could be checked for potential populations of these species. In autumn 2011, this work could be done thanks to a Synthesys grant of the EU to the junior author (RG). The visit did not produce additional information concerning our topics, but allowed to update a checklist of the material deposited at the museum. The complete list is available at <http://www.watermite.org/>

Following a worldwide survey of the diversity of the genus by Pešić & Smit (2011), most of the presently known 297 species are recorded from the northern hemisphere. In the present paper we give a survey on the French *Atractides* material hosted at MNHN Paris and describe two new species, increasing the number of *Atractides* species known from the country (Smit & Gerecke 2010) to a total of 38.

Material and methods

During field work, water mites were collected by hand netting, sorted on the spot from the living material, preserved in Koenike fluid and dissected as described by Davids *et al.* (2007). Holotypes are deposited in the Netherlands Centre for Biodiversity Naturalis in Leiden (RMNH), paratypes of *A. angelieri* at RMNH and MNHN (Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris).

All measurements are given in μm . For a detailed description and discussion of the characteristics of the genus *Atractides* and a detailed methodological introduction, see Gerecke (2003).

The following abbreviations are used: Ac-1 = first acetabulum, asl. = above sea level, Cx-I = first coxae, Cxgl-2 = coxoglandulare 2, dept. = department, D = dorsale, Dgl-1-7 = dorsoglandularia 1-7, dL = dorsal length, HB = central height, L = length, I-L-6 = Leg 1, sixth segment (tarsus), IL = lateral length, mL = medial length, P-1 = palp, first segment, pregen = pregenital sclerite, postoc = postocular sclerite, S-1 = proximal large ventral seta at I-L-5, S-2 = distal large ventral seta at I-L-5, Vgl = ventroglandulare, V = ventrale, vL = ventral length, W = width.