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***Trachyibana sarawakiensis* gen. nov., sp. nov., a remarkable new genus and species from Malaysia (Acari: Uropodina: Trachyuropodidae)**

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Abstract

A new genus *Trachyibana* **gen. nov.** is described and illustrated on the basis of *Trachyibana sarawakiensis* **sp. nov.** from Malaysia. The new genus belongs to the family Trachyuropodidae, on the basis of its fringed internal malae, the T-shaped dorsal setae and the position of hypostomal setae h3 (lateral to h1-h2-h4). The new genus differs from the other trachyuropodid genera and species by its lemon-shaped idiosoma, the presence of deep opisthogastric ventral furrows, and the absence of strongly sclerotised dorsal structures.

Key words: Acari, Mesostigmata, Uropodina, new genus, new species, Borneo

Introduction

The family Trachyuropodidae was erected by Berlese (1917), who also described several genera belonging to this family. Later Hirschmann (1961) revised the group and reduced the number of genera to two. The species with a strongly sclerotised dorsum were placed in the genus *Trachyuropoda* Berlese, 1888, while those without strongly sclerotised dorsal structures were placed in *Oplitis* Berlese, 1884. Subsequently, Hirschmann (1976) subdivided these two genera into species-groups, but in his later revised classification these species-groups were considered as genera (Hirschmann, 1979).

Oplitis is now classified in the Oplitidae (see Lindquist *et al.*, 2009; Beaulieu *et al.*, 2011). The remaining Trachyuropodidae form a very characteristic group among the Uropodina. They possess some quite specific character states, including the internal malae subdivided into several branches which bear fringed margins, and the arrangement of the hypostomal setae, which are not situated in a longitudinal row. They also have the neotenic character state of T-shaped setae on the dorsum and venter, which can sometimes be seen in the larvae of other Uropodina groups. This neotenic phenomenon is unknown in the other members of the suborder Uropodina. Hirschmann (1975) established a new suborder (Trachyuropodina) for this family, but Lindquist *et al.* (2009) placed the family Trachyuropodidae within the Uropodoidea.

Previous knowledge of the Uropodina was summarised by Wiśniewski (1993). Investigation of the fauna of Uropodina of Indo-Malaya has advanced since then, and new species have been described from Thailand, Vietnam and Malaysia (Kontschán 2008, 2010a, 2010b, 2010c, 2011a, 2011b; Kontschán & Starý, 2011, 2012). Five new species have been added to the Uropodina fauna of Malaysia (Kontschán, 2010a; Kontschán & Starý, 2012), but only one species (*Depressorotunda seticaudata* Kontschán, 2010) was described from Sarawak (Kontschán, 2010a).

Material and methods

During a search of the Arachnida collection in the Natural History Museum in Geneva, I found two females and two males of a very unusual species of Trachyuropodidae. Specimens were cleared in lactic acid and examined on

15. C-shaped dorsal strongly sclerotised structure large *Arculatatrachys* Hirschmann, 1979
 - C-shaped dorsal strongly sclerotised structure small *Graecatatrachys* Hirschmann, 1979

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