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New species and records of ptyctimous mites (Acari, Oribatida) from Cuba

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Abstract

An annotated checklist of identified oribatid mites from Cuba, including 16 species, 9 genera and 4 families, is provided. Three new species, *Prototritia triangularibus* Niedbala **sp. nov.** (Protoplophoridae), *Hoplophthiracarus vinalesensis* Niedbala **sp. nov.** and *Protophthiracarus paratripartitus* Niedbala **sp. nov.** (both Steganacaridae), are described from leaf litter. Three species of the subgenus *Atropacarus* (*Hoplophorella*)—*A. (H.) andrei* (Balogh, 1958), *A. (H.) brachys* Niedbala, 2004 and *A. (H.) stilifer* (Hammer, 1961)—are recorded in the Cuban mite fauna for the first time.

Key words: Oribatida, ptyctimous mites, checklist, new species, new record, morphology, systematics, Cuba

Introduction

Ptyctimous mites (Acari, Oribatida) of Cuba are poorly known (Călugăr & Vasiliu 1977; Scull 1985*a, b*; Starý 1992, 1993; Niedbala 2004, 2009; Niedbala & Prieto 2006; Niedbala & Starý 2010).

In the course of taxonomic identification of the Cuban mites from collection of the Museum of Zoology of Tyumen State University (Russia), we found three new species, belonging to the genera *Prototritia* Berlese, 1916 (Protoplophoridae), *Hoplophthiracarus* Jacot, 1933 (Steganacaridae) and *Protophthiracarus* Balogh, 1972 (Steganacaridae). The generic characters of *Prototritia*, *Hoplophthiracarus* and *Protophthiracarus*, and identification keys and analysis on geographical distribution to the Neotropical species were presented by Niedbala (2004).

The main goal of our paper is to describe and illustrate three new species. Additionally, we present an annotated checklist of identified ptyctimous mites with notes on new records.

Material and methods

The mites were submerged in lactic acid and mounted on temporary cavity slides for the duration of the study. Body measurements are presented in micrometers. Length of the body setae was measured in lateral aspect.

All types of new species are preserved in the Department of Animal Taxonomy and Ecology, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland.

In the *Checklist of ptyctimous mites* subsection, the authors and years of species are not included in References section.

List of collecting sites in Cuba:

1—Parque Nacional Alejandro de Humboldt, 20°30'N, 74°40'W, leaf litter in forest, unknown date and collector (mites were previously deposited in the Museum of Zoology of Tyumen State University, Russia).