New species of palaearctic Oribotritiidae (Acari, Oribatida)

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Abstract

Seven new Palaearctic species of the oribatid mite family Oribotritiidae are described: Oribotritia baikalica sp. nov. from Russia, O. shikoku sp. nov. from Japan, O. schusteri sp. nov. and O. turcica sp. nov. from Turkey, O. tashkentae sp. nov. from Uzbekistan, Maerkelotritia kirghiza sp. nov. from Kyrgyzstan and Indotritia tricarinata sp. nov. from Slovenia.

Key words: new species, oribatid mites, Oribotritiidae, Palaearctic

Introduction

The aim of this paper is to give descriptions of seven new species of ptyctimous mites (Acari, Oribatida) belonging to the family Oribotritiidae. Five of the new species represent the genus Oribotritia, one Maerkelotritia and one Indotritia. All species come from the Asiatic and Mediterranean parts of Palaearctic Region. All types are deposited in Department of Animal Taxonomy and Ecology, Poznań (DATE) and in the Field Museum, Chicago (FM).

Methods

The specimens are preserved in alcohol. For identification the mites were macerated in lactic acid, then mounted on slides in glycerine. Observations, measurements and illustrations were made using a standard light microscope equipped with a drawing attachment. All measurements are given in micrometres. An accurate morphological description of the species of the superfamily Euphthiracaroidea can be found in Mahunka (1990), while other explanations and abbreviations are given in the sections on materials and methods of my earlier works (Niedbala 2000, 2004).