A new eriophyoid mite species (Acari: Eriophyoidea) on Picea abies (Pinaceae)

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Abstract

A new eriophyoid species, Calepitrimerus lutocinus n. sp., a vagrant on Picea abies in Poland, is described. It is the first Calepitrimerus species reported from Picea plants.

Key words: Acari, Eriophyoidea, Eriophyidae, Calepitrimerus, new species, taxonomy, Picea, Poland

Introduction

Among the many phytophagous mites associated with gymnosperms eriophyoid mites with about 170 species are particularly diverse. The majority (90%) occur on the Pinaceae (over 100 species) and Cupressaceae (45 species) (De Lillo & Amrine 2005).

Slightly more than 50% of eriophyoid mites infesting coniferous plants (Division Pinophyta) belong to the Phytoptidae. Most of these species belong to a few genera, namely Nalepella, Trisetacus, Setoptus and Boczekella reported exclusively from coniferous plants. Representatives of the genus Trisetacus are the most abundant—57 species (De Lillo & Amrine 2005).

Nearly 50% of eriophyoid species reported from coniferous plants belong to the Eriophyidae. However, fewer genera are feeding exclusively on coniferous plants: apart from monotypic genera, there are three genera: Glossilus (two species), Keiferella (four species) and Proartacris (two species) (Boczek 1964; 1969; Mohanasundaram 1984; Huang & Boczek 1996; Navia & Flechtmann 2000; Huang 2001; Domes 2005).

Among about 63 species of Calepitrimerus only three occur on coniferous plants, but none of them was described from plants of the family Pinaceae. They have been identified only for Thuja spp. and Chamaecyparis sp.: C. occithujae Keifer, 1953, on T. occidentalis