



***Edoughnura rara* n.gen., n.sp., an enigmatic genus of Neanurinae Collembola from the Edough Massif (Algeria)**

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Abstract

A new genus and new species of Neanurinae Collembola, *Edoughnura rara*, is described from the Edough massif in Algeria. It combines a number of unusual or unique features : additional chaetae on head; mandible as a long, thin, ciliated lamella; chaetae Di of Th. II-III in line; tubercles Di fused on axis from Abd.III to Abd.V. Its affinities within the tribe Neanurini remains obscure.

Key words: taxonomy, faunistic, new genus, mandible

Introduction

The Neanurinae Collembola of northern Africa remain poorly known. Three species are recorded from Algeria (Cassagnau, 1963): *Bilobella aurantiaca* Caroli, 1912, *Endonura gladiolifer* (Cassagnau, 1954), *Protanura pseudomuscorum* (Börner, 1903). A fourth one, *Achorutes reticulatus*, cited by Handschin (1928) is a *species inquirenda*.

During a series of trips in the region of Constantine from 1999 to 2005, a large number of Neanurinae Collembola, including several species new to science, were collected by the second author. The most remarkable of these species represents a new genus of Neanurinae which is described in this paper.

List of the Neanurinae collected in the Edough massif

Five species of Neanurinae, including the new species described in this paper, are recorded from the Edough massif.

Tribe Paleonurini

Bilobella aurantiaca is quite common. This is the most oriental reliable record of this species widespread in western Mediterranean regions.

Tribe Neanurini

Deutonura sp., an undescribed species close to *D. deficiens* Deharveng, 1979, is frequent in oak forest litter.