



Anystipalpus*, *Antennoseius* and *Vitzthumia*: a taxonomic and nomenclatural conundrum of genera (Acari: Mesostigmata: Dermanyssina), with description of four species of *Anystipalpus

EVERT E. LINDQUIST¹ & MARÍA L. MORAZA²

¹Bioresources Theme, Research Branch, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0C6, Canada.

E-mail: lindquiste@agr.gc.ca; lindquistm@primus.ca

²Departamento de Zoología y Ecología, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad de Navarra, Pamplona E-31080, Spain.

E-mail: mloraza@unav.es

Table of contents

Abstract	1
Introduction	2
Materials and methods	3
Systematics	4
Review of family-level placement of <i>Anystipalpus</i> and <i>Antennoseius</i>	4
Genus-level concepts concerning <i>Antennoseius</i> and <i>Anystipalpus</i>	11
Key to genus-group taxa of <i>Anystipalpus</i> and <i>Antennoseius</i>	11
Redescription of the genus <i>Anystipalpus</i> Berlese, 1911	12
Key to smooth morph adult females of species of <i>Anystipalpus</i>	14
<i>Anystipalpus percicola</i> Berlese	14
<i>Anystipalpus livshitsi</i> (Eidelberg), new combination	18
<i>Anystipalpus labiduricola</i> n. sp.	23
<i>Anystipalpus kazemii</i> n. sp.	28
Discussion	31
Acknowledgements	36
References	36

Abstract

The genus *Anystipalpus* Berlese, 1911, of uncertain prior placement in the superfamilies Ascoidea or Dermanyssoidea, is redescribed, based on reexamination of type and other material of the type-species, *A. percicola* Berlese, and of material representing *Anystipalpus livshitsi* (Eidelberg) **new combination** and two new species, *A. labiduricola* **n. sp.** and *A. kazemii* **n. sp.** *Anystipalpus nataliae* (Eidelberg) **new combination** and *Anystipalpus ukrainicus* (Sklyar) **new combination** are determined to be junior synonyms of *A. percicola* Berlese and *A. livshitsi* (Eidelberg), respectively, **new synonymies**. The genus is known thus far only from adult females phoretic under the elytra of carabid beetles and the tegmina of labidurid earwigs in Eurasia. The relationships between it and the closely related *Antennoseius* Berlese, 1916 and *Vitzthumia* Thor, 1930, are reviewed, and the options for the family level placement of these genera are reconsidered. Attention is given to some gnathosomatic attributes that are commonly overlooked in description of species of these closely related genera. Phoresy and the role of adult female morphs in the life history of these mites, as well as the extraordinary phoretic association of one species with earwigs are discussed.

Key words: Ascoidea, Dermanyssoidea, polymorphism, phoresy, carabid beetles, labidurid earwigs