A new Aceria species (Acari: Eriophyoidea) on Echinops ritro L. subsp. ruthenicus (M.Bieb.) Nyman (Asteraceae) from Serbia and a supplement to the original description of Aceria brevicincta (Nalepa 1898)

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Abstract
A new species of eriophyoid mite, Aceria banatica n. sp. inhabiting Echinops ritro L. subsp. ruthenicus (M.Bieb.) Nyman has been described from Serbia. A comparison of characters between A. banatica n. sp. and Aceria echinopsi Boczek and Nuzzazi 1988, the only other species known from Echinops sp., is given. A supplementary description of Aceria brevicincta (Nalepa 1898) found on Jurinea mollis (L.) Rchb. in Serbia is included along with a comparison of taxonomic characters of this population with previously described specimens from Hungary and the poor original description from Austria.

Key words: Eriophyoidea, eriophyoid mites, new species, Cardueae

Introduction
The plant genera Echinops and Jurinea belong to the monophyletic tribe Cardueae of the family Asteraceae (Bekir et al. 2009). Echinops includes about 120 species of plants commonly known as globe thistles. They are native to Eastern Europe, Central Asia and south of the mountains of tropical Africa (Mabberley 1998). Jurinea is a genus of about 200 species. Its native distribution specifically involves Central Asia, Iran, Turkey and the Mediterranean basin (Susanna et al. 2006). Five Echinops species and only Jurinea mollis (L.) Rchb. form part of the flora of Serbia (Gajić 1975).

The taxonomically difficult eriophyoid mite genus Aceria includes over 900 valid species (Amrine et al. 2003). According to the world catalogue (Amrine and Stasny 1994), Fauna Europaea (de Lillo 2004) and data published by de Lillo et al. (2003), a total of 23 Aceria species have been recorded on Cardueae plants, 8 of which are known in Serbia (Petanović and Stanković 1999; Petanović et al. 2000). Most of the Aceria spp. inhabiting Cardueae plant taxa are poorly known and described.

From Echinops spp. and Jurinea spp., only two eriophyoid species have been described to date in the world: Aceria echinopsi Boczek and Nuzzazi 1988 from Echinops sp. and Aceria brevicincta (Nalepa 1898) from Jurinea mollis.

Aceria echinopsi was described from samples collected in Bu Tuil near Taruna, Libya and has not been recorded since. This mite species is gall-making and induces subspherical galls with cells inside, along the margins of leaves. Aceria brevicincta was named as Eriophyes brevicinctus for the first time by Nalepa (1898) from samples collected in Baden, Austria, and later described and illustrated by the same author (Nalepa 1900). It is also a gall-making mite and was observed causing such symptoms on leaves. Although the genus Aceria was established by Keifer (1944), this species was only then reassigned by Farkas (1965). Until now, it has also been recorded in Hungary (Moesz 1938; Rainiss 1940; Balas 1941 loc. cit. Ripka 2007; Farkas 1965; Farkas 1966), Bosnia and Herzegovina (Baudys 1941) and Serbia (Petanović & Stanković 1999). The original description of A. brevicincta by Nalepa (1898 and 1900) does not correspond to the currently accepted standard for morphometric descriptions as published by de Lillo et al. (2010). For this reason, the present paper provides a supplementary morphological description of the species. A new eriophyoid species found on Echinops ritro L. subsp. ruthenicus is also presented.