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Heterodispus cordidiscus n. sp., a new soil mite from Egypt, and remarks on the nominal species H. elongatus Trägårdh, 1905 (Acari: Heterostigmatina: Scutacaridae)

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Abstract

The description of a new Egyptian soil inhabiting scutacarid species, Heterodispus cordidiscus n. sp. (Acari, Heterostigmatina), including female, male and larva, is given. It is the first description of male and larva within the genus Heterodispus Paoli, 1911. The redescription of the nominal species H. elongatus Trägårdh, 1905 by Paoli (1911) has been erroneous and we now show that the redescription made by Mahunka (1963) does not describe H. elongatus, either. The incorrectly interpreted species is hereby provided with the new name H. pannonicus n. nom.. A corrigendum for the setal formula of leg I of *H. foveatus* Jagersbacher-Baumann and Ebermann, 2012 is given.

Keywords: Acari, Scutacaridae, male and larva, Heterodispus cordidiscus n. sp., Heterodispus pannonicus n. nom.

Introduction

The genus Heterodispus Paoli, 1911 belongs to the family Scutacaridae (Acari: Heterostigmatina) and has been reported from all continents except the Arctic and Antarctic. It consists of recently 35 species, whereas eight of them are described from Egypt: the nominal species Heterodispus elongatus Trägårdh, 1905, furthermore H. adrosii Metwali, 1982, H. aegyptensis Momen and El-Bagoury, 1989, H.aegyptiacus Sevastianov, 1985, H. evansi Momen and El-Bagoury, 1989, H. osmani Sevastianov, 1985, H. rackae Metwali, 1984, and H. youssefi Metwali, 1982.

In the present paper, we describe the female, male and larva of a new Egyptian Heterodispus species and thereby provide the first descriptions of male and larva in the genus. The new species Heterodispus cordidiscus was found syntopically with the African H. foveatus Jagersbacher-Baumann and Ebermann, 2012. Heterodispus elongatus has been redescribed twice, but both redescriptions are based on specimens not originating from the locus typicus but from European countries and also obviously belonging to other species. We demonstrate that the original description by Trägårdh still is the valid one for *H. elongatus*.

Materials and methods

For laboratory cultures, the mites were reared in glass tubes filled with stiffed soil according to the method described by Ebermann and Rack (1982). The mites' nutritional fungus grew on apple skin.

Permanent microscopic slides were made using Swan's (Swan 1936) as embedding medium. Microscopic analysis was done with a light microscope with drawing attachment (Reichert Diavar, Vienna). All measurements are given in µm. Nomenclature of setae follows that of Grandjean (1940) modified for Heterostigmatina by Lindquist (1986).