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Two new species of feather mites (Acarina: Analgoidea) from the Moustached Warbler, *Acrocephalus melanopogon* (Passeriformes, Acrocephalidae), in Romania

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Abstract

Two new species of feather mites *Ingrassiella melanopogoni* Constantinescu **sp. nov**. (Xolalgidae) and *Trouessartia mironovi* Constantinescu **sp. nov**. (Trouessartiidae) are described from *Acrocephalus melanopogon* (Passeriformes: Acrocephalidae) from the South-East of Romania. *Ingrassiella melanopogoni* differs from all species of the genus by having extensions of the posterolateral angles of the prodorsal shield shorter than in other species and not extending to the hysteronotal shield. *Trouessartia mironovi* is readily distinguished by having an unique combination of characters within the genus: epimerites I are fused in both sexes and epimerites IVa are highly developed in male (coxal fields IV are almost closed).

Key words: Acari, Analgoidea, *Ingrassiella melanopogoni*, *Trouessartia mironovi,* systematics

Introduction

Feather mites (Acariformes: Analgoidea) are commensals or ectoparasites of birds that occupy different parts of the host body, especially flight feathers on the wings and tail and contour. So far, above 2400 species of feather mites are described, and this number it is estimated by experts to be less that 20% of really existent species (Mironov 2003).

In Romania feather mites are little studied, a total of 30 species are mentioned in a series of papers (Mack-Firă & Cristea 1962, 1966a, 1966b, 1967, Mack-Firă & Cristea-Năstăsescu 1968a, 1968b, Santana 1976, Dabert & Ehrsberger 1990), and only one new species, *Proctophyllodes mesocaulus* Mack-Firă and Cristea-Năstăsescu, 1968 (Proctophyllodidae) was described from *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* (Linnaeus) (Passeriformes: Muscicapidae). In the present paper we describe two new feather mite species from *Acrocephalus melanopogon* (Passeriformes: Acrocephalidae). Two feather mite species *Trouessartia bifurcata* Trouessart, 1884 and *T. trouessarti* Oudemans, 1904 (Trouessartiidae), were previously described from this host (Santana 1976).

Materials and methods

The bird specimens examined belong to the Birds Collection of "Grigore Antipa" National Museum of Natural History and are preserved in alcohol 96%. To collect feather mites, the conservation fluid in which the birds were kept was filtered through the filter paper, and then mites were collected under a stereomicroscope. A part of mite specimens were cleared in lactic acid and mounted on microscope slides in Hoyer's medium. Drawings were made using an Olympus CX21 microscope, with camera lucida drawing device.

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