

Copyright © 2005 Magnolia Press





Mediostigmaeus gen. n. (Acari: Stigmaeidae), with the description of a new species from the USA

QING-HAI FAN¹ & DAVID E. WALTER²

 Key Lab of Biopesticide and Chemical Biology, Ministry of Education; College of Plant Protection, Fujian Agricultural and Forestry University, Fuzhou 350002, China; Current address: Landcare Research, Private Bag 92 170, Auckland, New Zealand; e-mail: fanqh@acarology.org
Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2E9 Canada; e-mail: dew@ualberta.ca

Abstract

A new genus, *Mediostigmaeus* is proposed for two species, *M. citri* (Rakha & McCoy, 1984) **comb. n.** and *M. floridanus* **sp. n.** The new genus is similar to *Mediolata* in having only one pair of subcapitular setae but can be easily distinguished by having the palptibial claw subequal to the palptarsus, and setae c_1, d_1, d_2, e_1, e_2 , and f_1 situated on individual platelets. The adult female of *M. floridanus* **sp. n.**, collected from domatia of *Vitis* sp., Lake Adair, Orlando, Florida, USA can be separated from those of *M. citri* by chaetotaxy of tarsi and pattern of hysterosomal shield.

Key words: Acari, Stigmaeidae, Mediostigmaeus, new genus, new species

Introduction

Rakha & McCoy (1984) discovered a new species of stigmaeid mite from citrus trees in Florida, USA and included it in the genus *Eryngiopus*. They were not aware of a rare character, a single pair of subcapitular setae, which was previously known for stigmaeids only in the genus *Mediolata*. Herein we propose a new genus, *Mediostigmaeus* gen. n. based on *Mediostigmaeus citri* comb. n. and a new species, *M. floridanus*, described in this paper.

The terminology of palp and leg chaetotaxy follows that of Grandjean (1944, 1946) and the terminology of idiosomal chaetotaxy follows Kethley (1990). Measuring method follows Fan *et al.* (2003). All measurements are given in micrometers (μ m).