

## Two new species of the feather mite subfamily Pterodectinae (Acari: Astigmata: Proctophyllodidae) from Brazil

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### Abstract

We describe two new pterodectine feather mites (Analgoidea: Proctophyllodidae) from Brazilian passerines (Passeriformes): *Pterodectes amaurochalinus* sp. n., from *Turdus amaurochalinus* Cabanis (Turdidae), and *Dolichodectes neotropicus* sp. n., collected from *Elaenia chiriquensis* Lawrence (Tyrannidae). A key to species of the genus *Dolichodectes* is presented.

**Key words:** Astigmata, Analgoidea, feather mite, systematics, *Pterodectes*, *Dolichodectes*, Brazil

### Introduction

The feather mite subfamily Pterodectinae is one of the two major subfamilies of Proctophyllodidae, currently comprising about 110 species into 13 genera (Park & Ateyo 1971; Gaud & Ateyo 1996). However, this number of species apparently represents only a small fraction of the real diversity of Pterodectinae (Mironov 2003); feather mites are still poorly explored outside Africa and Europe (Gaud & Mouchet 1957; Mironov & Kopij 1997; Mironov & Fain 2003).

Park & Ateyo (1971) made a revision of Pterodectinae and recognized 9 species in the genus *Pterodectes* Robin; later on, a few scattered surveys on Neotropical region added 9 more species (Berla 1973; Černý 1974; Hernandez & Valim 2005; OConnor *et al.* 2005). Representatives of this genus occur on various avian families of the order Passeriformes, namely on Corvidae, Emberizidae, Fringillidae, Furnariidae, Hirundinidae, Icteridae, Thraupidae, Troglodytidae, Turdidae and Tyrannidae (Park & Ateyo 1971).

Another pterodectine genus, *Dolichodectes* Park & Ateyo, 1971 currently comprises