

New records of phytoseiid mites (Acari: Mesostigmata) from the French Antilles, with description of *Neoseiulus cecileae* sp. nov.

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Abstract

Twenty-six species of Phytoseiidae are reported from French Caribbean islands. One of them, *Neoseiulus cecileae*, is described as new to science. Five species are newly reported from the French Antilles and four are newly recorded from one of the French islands.

Key words: French Caribbean Islands, biodiversity, hotspots, biogeography, *Neoseiulus cecileae*

Résumé

Vingt-six espèces de phytoséiides sont signalées des Antilles françaises. L'une d'entre elles, nouvelle pour la science, *Neoseiulus cecileae*, est décrite. Cinq espèces sont nouvelles pour la faune des Antilles françaises et quatre sont nouvellement signalées de l'une des îles.

Mots clés: Iles Françaises des Caraïbes, biodiversité, «points chauds», biogéographie, *Neoseiulus cecileae*

Introduction

Fifty phytoseiid mites are known from French Caribbean islands (Kreiter & Moraes, 1997; Moraes *et al.*, 2000). The present paper reports on phytoseiid mites collected in surveys conducted in the French Antilles, in the Caribbean area, which constitute one of the world's hotspots of biodiversity. The biodiversity hotspot concept was defined by Myers (1988) in order to identify the most immediately important areas for conservation of biodiversity, taking into consideration the number of species protected per dollar invested.