



A new species of *Heteroparasitus* Juvara-Bals 1975 from Karavanke, Austria (Acari: Parasitidae)

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Abstract

A new mite species *Heteroparasitus* (*Heteroparasitus*) *mariae* sp. nov. (Acari: Parasitidae) is described from southern Austria (Karavanke Mountains). A key to the four known species in the genus is given, and the definition of the genus is revised.

Key words: Acari, Parasitidae, *Heteroparasitus*, new species, mite taxonomy, Karavanke

Introduction

Heteroparasitus Juvara-Bals 1975, with type species *Pergamasus tirolensis* Sellnick 1968, was first proposed as a subgenus of *Holoparasitus* Oudemans 1936, and then raised to the rank of genus by Juvara-Bals (2002). At present, the genus *Heteroparasitus* comprises two subgenera, *Heteroparasitus* s. str., and *Medioparasitus* Juvara-Bals 2002, which includes only *Heteroparasitus* (*Medioparasitus*) *athiasae* Juvara-Bals 2002. However, accordingly to Juvara-Bals (2002) "the placement of *Medioparasitus* subgen. n. in the genus *Heteroparasitus* is uncertain at present".

The subgenus *Heteroparasitus* is a small taxon containing three known species: *Heteroparasitus* (*Heteroparasitus*) *tirolensis* (Sellnick 1968), *H. (H.) coronarius* (Karg 1971), and *H. (H.) quadratus* (Witaliński 1972). *Heteroparasitus tirolensis* has a relatively wide European distribution, including Tirol (Neuleutasch near Seefeld in Tirol), Markenstein in the Wiener Wald (Sellnick 1968), Lower Austria and Steiermark (Schmölzer 1995; Juvara-Bals 2002), Germany and Slovenia (Willmann 1940; Karg 1971; Juvara-Bals 2002), Romania (Juvara-Bals 1975) and Southern Poland (Witaliński in Juvara-Bals 2002). This species has also been found in other localities in Austria (Graz and Karavanke Mountains), Germany (Pielenhofen near Regensburg), and Hungary (surroundings of Veszprem) (Witaliński unpublished). The remaining two species are rare, possibly limited to the type localities and their vicinities. Thus, the description of a new species of *Heteroparasitus* is significant since it extends the relatively meagre data on this genus.

Heteroparasitus mariae sp. nov.

(Figs 1–19)

Material examined. *Holotype*. Female (slide no. 2140), 23 July 2007, close to St. Leonhard Church, Karavanke mountains, Austria, 46° 26' 45.3" N, 14° 38' 59.4" E, alt. ca. 1410 m a.s.l., wet moss (*Sphagnum*) around water outflow. *Paratypes*. 7 females, 3 males (slides no. 2141–2146), same data as holotype. The types have been deposited in the Zoological Museum of the Jagiellonian University, Cracow, Poland.