



New species of oribatid mites of the superfamily Galumnoidea (Acari: Oribatida) from Ethiopia

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Abstract

Three new species of oribatid mites of the superfamily Galumnoidea, *Pilizetes anufrievi* **sp. nov.**, *Taeniogalumna behanae* **sp. nov.**, *Galumnella baleensis* **sp. nov.**, are described from Bale Mountains National Park (African region, Ethiopia). Keys to closely related species of these genera are presented.

Key words: oribatid mites, new species, Ethiopia, Bale Mountains National Park

Introduction

The fauna of oribatid mites of Ethiopia is scarcely studied (Mahunka 1982, 1983a, 1984; Bernini 1988; Niedbała 2008; Ermilov *et al.* 2010). In the course of taxonomic studies of the oribatid fauna of Ethiopian Bale Mountains National Park, we have found three new species of the superfamily Galumnoidea, representing the genera *Pilizetes* Sellnick, 1937, *Taeniogalumna* Balogh, 1962 and *Galumnella* Berlese, 1916 belonging to the families Galumnidae and Galumnellidae.

The family Galumnidae comprises 33 genera with more than 400 species (Subías 2004, online version 2010). *Pilizetes* is a rather small genus that was proposed by Sellnick (1937) with *Pilizetes africanus* Sellnick, 1937 as type species. Currently, the genus comprises 15 species, which distributed in the Ethiopian and Neotropical regions. *Taeniogalumna* is a very small genus that was proposed by Balogh (1962) with *Taeniogalumna sphaerula* Balogh, 1962 as type species. Currently, the genus comprises two species, both distributed in the Ethiopian region.

The family Galumnellidae comprises 6 genera with more than 30 species (Subías 2004, online version 2010). *Galumnella* is a rather small genus that was proposed by Berlese (1916) with *Galumnella paradoxa* Berlese, 1916 as type species. Currently, the genus comprises 16 species that distributed in the Pantropical and Subtropical regions.

In the present work, we describe three new species and present identification keys to closely related species of each genus.

Material and methods

The locality and habitat of the new species are characterized in the "Material examined" sections.

Specimens were studied and illustrated in lactic acid, mounted in temporary cavity slides during the laboratory study. All body measurements are presented in micrometers. Body length was measured in lateral