



Two new species of *Abrolophus* (Acari: Erythraeidae) from Montenegro

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Abstract

Abrolophus montenegrinus Saboori, Šundić & Pešić **sp. nov.** and *Abrolophus petanovicae* Saboori, Šundić & Pešić **sp. nov.** are described and illustrated from larvae on grasses (no host arthropod) from Montenegro. New data for some other *Abrolophus* species are provided.

Key words: *Abrolophus*, larva, Parasitengona, Prostigmata, *A. iraninejadi*, *A. khanjanii*, *A. welbourni*, *A. humberti*, *A. aitapensis*

Introduction

Abrolophus is a large genus of erythraeid mites but its taxonomy is in a state of flux. The genera *Abrolophus*, *Hauptmannia*, *Marantelophus* and *Grandjeanella* are all very similar and their confused taxonomy will only become clearer through correlating larval and post-larval stages. This task is time consuming, as live adults must be collected and reared.

Larval *Abrolophus* can be split into two groups on the basis of the presence/absence of a comb-like seta on the palpal tarsus (Yao *et al.* 2000; Makol (personal communication)). The following larval species of *Abrolophus* have a comb-like seta on the palpal tarsus: *A. quisquiliarus* (Hermann, 1804); *A. longicollis* Oudemans, 1910; *A. aitapensis* Southcott, 1948; *A. mortenseni* Southcott, 1994; *A. humberti* Haitlinger, 1996; *A. khanjanii* Haitlinger & Saboori, 1996; *A. tonsor* Southcott, 1996; *A. welbourni* Yao *et al.*, 2000; *A. benoni* Haitlinger, 2002; *A. bohdani* Haitlinger, 2003; *A. iraninejadi* Saboori & Hajiqanbar, 2005; *A. penelopae* Haitlinger, 2005; *A. basumtwiensis* Haitlinger, 2006; *A. unimiri* Haitlinger, 2006; *A. mirabelae* Haitlinger, 2007; *A. marinensis* Haitlinger, 2007; *A. criemensis* Haitlinger, 2008 and *A. nymindegabicus* Haitlinger, 2008 (Southcott 1948, 1994, 1996; Haitlinger 1996, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006a, b, 2007a, b, c, 2008a, b; Haitlinger & Saboori 1996; Yao *et al.* 2000; Saboori & Hajiqanbar 2005; Łayadanowicz & Mąkol 2008). Until now, no *Abrolophus* with a comb-like seta on the palpal tarsus had been reported from Montenegro.

In this paper we describe the larvae of two new species, *Abrolophus montenegrinus* Saboori, Šundić & Pešić **sp. nov.** and *A. petanovicae* Saboori, Šundić & Pešić **sp. nov.**, collected from grasses (off host arthropod) from Montenegro.

Material and methods

The specimens were collected by a sweep net on grasses and preserved in 75% ethanol. Mite specimens were cleared in Nesbitt's solution and mounted in Hoyer's medium (Walter & Krantz 2009). Figures were drawn and measurements made using a BX51 Olympus microscope equipped with a drawing tube and zoom lens. The terminology and abbreviations follow Southcott (1961), Mąkol & Wohltmann (2000) and Wohltmann *et al.* (2006) except for as₁ and as₂ which are the first and second hypostomal setae respectively, PaScFed, PaScFev which are