



A new species and new records of the genus *Hypogastrura* Bourlet, 1839 (Collembola, Hypogastruridae) from Iran

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Abstract

Hypogastrura persica sp. nov. is described from the Zagros Mountains (Kermanshah Province, Iran). The new species can be distinguished from two nearest congeners, namely *H. exigua* Gisin, 1958 (Alps) and *H. magistri* Babenko, 1994 (Siberia), by the body size, the number of sensilla on antennal segment IV, the number of setae on dens and ventral tube as well as chaetotaxy of abdominal terga IV and V. Three species of the genus, viz. *H. martiani* Skarżyński & Kaprus', 2009, *H. purpurescens* (Lubbock, 1867) and *H. socialis* (Uzel, 1891), have been recorded from Iran for the first time.

Key words: *Hypogastrura persica* sp. nov., new records, *H. martiani*, *H. purpurescens*, *H. socialis*, Iranian plateau

Introduction

The genus *Hypogastrura* Bourlet, 1839 comprises almost 170 known species (Bellinger et al. 2013). Most of them live in the Holarctic, about 60 were recorded from Asia and only 3 species, namely *H. manubrialis* (Tullberg, 1869), *H. tullbergi* (Schäffer, 1900) and *H. vernalis* (Carl, 1901) are known from Iran (Cox 1982). Considering the high diversity of Iranian natural environment this number seems to be highly underestimated. During examination of the material collected in the Zagros Mountains we found specimens representing a species new to science and three other species of *Hypogastrura* new for the Iranian fauna. A description of the former species and notes on the latter ones are given below.

Material and methods

The specimens were cleared in Nesbitt's fluid (chloral hydrate, concentrated hydrochloric acid, distilled water), subsequently mounted on slides in arabic gum mixed solution (distilled water, arabic gum, glycerol, chloral hydrate), and studied using a Nikon Eclipse E600 phase contrast microscope. Figures were drawn with the camera lucida. Terminology for the description follows that given in Fjellberg (1984, 1999), Babenko et al. (1994) and Thibaud et al. (2004).