

Four new tydeid species from Iran (Acari: Prostigmata)

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Abstract

Four new Iranian species namely *Tydeus kabutarahangensis* **n. sp.**, *T. caryae* **n. sp.**, *Lorryia navidi* **n. sp.** and *L. vianensis* **n. sp.** are described and illustrated. *Tydeus momeni* **nom. nov.** is proposed for *Orthotydeus longisetosus* El-Bagoury & Momen, 1988, a junior homonym of *Tydeus longisetosus* Kuznetzov & Zapletina, 1972.

Key words: Tydeidae *Lorryia*, *Tydeus*, Acari, new species, Iran

Introduction

Tydeids are known from all major continents, including the Arctic (Thor, 1933) and Antarctic (Strandtmann, 1967). They are commonly found in moss, litter, soil, fungi, bird's nests, on plants and in stored products (Marshall, 1970; Knop & Hoy, 1983; Hessein & Perring, 1983; Momen, 1986; Momen, 1990; Momen & Sinha, 1991; Momen & Lundqvist, 1995).

Tydeidae are fast-moving, small, soft-bodied mites. Dorsally the idiosoma can be striated or partly or completely reticulated. Ventrally it is usually striated. They range from white, yellow, green, and orange to black. *Homeopronematus anconai* (Baker) feeds on various stages of tomato russet mite, *Aculops lycopersici* (Masse) (Hessein & Perring, 1986). *Homeopronematus staercki* (Schruft) and *Orthotydeus goetzi* (Schruft) feed on *Colomerus vitis* (Pagenstecher) and *Calepitrimerus vitis* (Nalepa) on grape in Germany (Schruft, 1972). *Tydeus caryae* **n. sp.** feeds on *Eriophyes tristriatus* (Nalepa), the walnut leaf gall mite in Iran. *Lorryia formosa* Cooreman is known to feed on scale-produced honeydew in citrus groves, acting as a sanitizing agent (Mendel & Gerson, 1982). Tydeids were even reported to feed on nematodes (Santos *et al.*, 1981) and other invertebrates.