Two new species of Digamasellidae from Taiwan (Acari: Mesostigmata)

LI-MING MA1, CHYI-CHEN HO2,4 & SHUN-CHENG WANG3

1Chinese Base for Control and Prevention of Plague and Brucellosis, Baicheng, Jilin, China. E-mail: lmmabc@msn.com
2Retired scholar, Taiwan. E-mail: mtho2005@yahoo.com.tw
3Department of Environmental Engineering and Management, Chaoyang University of Technology, Taichung County 41349, Taiwan. E-mail: scwang1@cyut.edu.tw
4Corresponding author

Abstract

This paper reports the occurrence of two new species of Digamasellidae from Taiwan, *Dendroseius vulgaris n. sp.* and *Dendrolaelaps (Foveodendrolaelaps) linjianzheni n. sp.*. *Dendroseius vulgaris* is described based on the morphology of adult females, adult males and deutonymph, and *D. linjianzheni* is based on the morphology of adult females and males. This is the first report on the mite species of Digamasellidae from Taiwan.

Key words: *Dendroseius*, *Dendrolaelaps*, diagnose, key to species

Introduction

Digamasellidae are predaceous mites commonly found in litter, soil and decaying organic material. Some species are found in decaying wood, bracket fungi, in galleries of bark beetles or in association with wood-boring beetles. The known prey of Digamasellidae includes nematodes, arthropod eggs, early stages of insects or mites, springtails, and possibly fungi (Walter et al., 1988; Lindquist et al., 2009). The family appears to have a worldwide distribution.

In Asia, Digamasellidae have been reported from China (nine species), Uzbekistan (six species), India (five species), Japan (three species), Kazakhstan (three species), Vietnam (one species), Iran (one species), Azerbaijan (one species) and Indonesia (one species) (Bhattacharyya, 1969, 1978; Hirschmann, 1974; Shcherkak & Chelebiev, 1977; Ishikawa, 1977; Pramanik & Raychaudhuri, 1978; Scherbak, 1980; Hirschmann & Wiśniewski, 1982a, b, 1984; Barilo, 1989; Wiśniewski & Hirschmann, 1989, 1991; Ma, 1995, 1997, 2001a, 2001b, 2005, 2008; Bhattacharyya et al. 1996; Ma et al. 2003; Ma & Lin, 2005, 2007; Faraji et al., 2006; Ma & Bai, 2009). Until now, no identified Digamasellidae have been described or recorded from Taiwan. The aim of this work is to describe two new species of Digamasellidae from Taiwan.

Material and methods

Soil samples with litter were taken from various agricultural lands and montane areas in Taiwan. Mites contained in the sample were extracted with modified Berlese funnels and mounted in Hoyer’s medium. Digamasellidae specimens were separated into morphospecies and examined under a phase contrast microscope. The mites were identified using Shcherbak (1980), Hirschmann & Wiśniewski (1982a, b), Karg (1993), and Gwiazdowicz (2012), leading to the conclusion that two new species of Digamasellidae had been collected.

The new species were illustrated with the use of a camera lucida. All measurements are in micrometres, with the range and the average (in parentheses). Lengths were measured at the central line of the specimen and widths were measured at the widest level. Setal nomenclature is based on Lindquist & Evans (1965) and Lindquist & Moraza (1998), as adapted by Faraji et al. (2006) for the digamasellids, except the setae s3 and r2 are reversed in this study.
Key to species of the subgenus *Foveodendrolaelaps* of genus *Dendrolaelaps* (based on adult females primarily)

1. The two V-shaped incisions in the anterior margin of opisthonotal shield each with a transverse covering plate .................. 2
2. The two V-shaped incisions in the anterior margin of opisthonotal shield without transverse covering plate .................. 5
3. Peritreme extending anteriorly to level of s1 or beyond s1 ................................................................. 3
4. Peritreme extending anteriorly to level of s3 and r3 .................. *D. (F.) birepiloides* Hirschmann & Wisniewski 1982
5. Peritreme on peritrematic shield at the level of *z1*, seta r3 on peritrematic shield .......... *D. (F.) rectus* Karg 1962
6. Peritreme shield restrict to peritreme, not fused with opisthonotal; seta r3 on soft cuticle along lateral margins of opisthonotal shield, known only from deutonymph ................................................................. 4
7. Setae s2, r2 and r4 on opisthonotal shield; ZS longer than S3 .................. *D. (F.) brasiliensis* Hirschmann & Wisniewski 1984
8. Setae s2, r2 and r4 on soft cuticle along lateral margins of opisthonotal shield; ZS shorter than S3 ................................................................. *D. (F.) samsinaki* Hirschmann & Wisniewski 1982
9. Setae s1 on ventrianal shield ................................................................. 6
10. Seta s1 on ventrianal shield along anterior margin of ventrianal shield ................................................................. 8
12. Setae Zv3 on ventrianal shield ................................................................. 7
13. Setae s1 on soft cuticle along lateral margins of opisthonotal shield; r3 on peritrematic shield; S3 slightly shorter than 2.5 times the length of r3; ventrianal shield subrectangular ................................................................. *D. (F.) linjiangzheni* sp. nov.
14. Setae s1 on opisthonotal shield, r3 on opisthonotal shield; ZS approximately 4 times the length of r3; ventrianal shield ova ............ .......................... *D. (F.) arenarioides* Hirschmann & Wisniewski 1982
15. Setae s2, r2 and r3 on peritrematic shield; R2 and R3 on opisthonotal shield; *Jv5* on anal shield ................................................................. *D. (F.) stammeri* Hirschmann 1960
16. Setae s2, r2 and r3 on soft cuticle along lateral margins of peritrematic shield; R2 and R3 on soft cuticle along lateral margins of opisthonotal shield; *Jv3* on soft cuticle along lateral margins of ventrianal shield .................. *D. (F.) foveolatus* (Leitner 1949)

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References


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