

Two new water mite species from Iran of the water mite families *Torrenticolidae* and *Hygrobatidae* (Acari: Hydrachnidia)

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Abstract

Two water mite species (Acari: Hydrachnidia) are reported from the Kerman area (Southeastern Iran). *Atractides iranicus* and *Torrenticola saboorii* are described as new species.

Key words: Acari, water mites, taxonomy, new species, Iran

Introduction

The number of water mite species reported from Iran is 65 (Sepasgozarian, 1999). So far, only four species of the genus *Torrenticola* Piersig: *Torrenticola (Torrenticola) baueri* Bader & Sepasgozarian, 1987, *Torrenticola (Megapalpis) jasmineae* Bader 1988, *Torrenticola (Rusetria) ramini* Bader, 1988 and *Torrenticola (Rusetria) wiljae* Bader, 1988 and two species of the genus *Atractides* Koch: *Atractides nahavandii* Schwoerbel & Sepasgozarian, 1976 and *Atractides baderi* Schwoerbel & Sepasgozarian, 1976, are actually known from Iran.

During a survey of the freshwater fauna of the Kerman area several species of water mites were collected, including a new species of the genus *Torrenticola* Piersig and a new species of the genus *Atractides* Koch.

Material and Methods

Water mites were collected by hand netting, sorted on the spot from the living material, and conserved in Koenike's fluid.