

## Quill mites (Acari: Prostigmata: Syringophilidae) from African passeriform birds

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### Abstract

Two new species of quill mites (Acari: Prostigmata: Syringophilidae) collected from passeriform birds from Africa are described and illustrated: *Aulobia cisticolae* sp. n. from the Red-faced Cisticola *Cisticola erythrops* (Hartlaub, 1857), the Singing Cisticola *C. cantans* (Heuglin, 1869) and the Whistling Cisticola *C. lateralis* (Fraser, 1843) (Sylviidae) and *Syringophilopsis corvinae* sp. n. from the Yellow-billed Shrike *Corvinella corvina* (Shaw, 1809) (Laniidae). Two new host species of the family Syringophilidae are given.

**Key words:** Syringophilidae, quill mites, Sylviidae, Laniidae, ectoparasites, taxonomy

### Introduction

The Syringophilidae of African birds are little understood. At present time, there are only 26 quill mite species described from 34 avian hosts from this area (Lawrence 1959; Kethley 1970; Bochkov 2000; Skoracki & Dabert 1999, 2000, 2001a, b; 2002; Fain *et al.* 2000). In the present paper we describe two new species of syringophilid mites: *Aulobia cisticolae* sp. n. from the Red-faced Cisticola *Cisticola erythrops* (Hartlaub, 1857), the Singing Cisticola *C. cantans* (Heuglin, 1869) and the Whistling Cisticola *C. lateralis* (Fraser, 1843) (Passeriformes: Sylviidae) and *Syringophilopsis corvinae* sp. n. from the Yellow-billed Shrike *Corvinella corvina* (Shaw, 1809) (Passeriformes: Laniidae).

The nomenclature of idiosomal setae follows that of Fain (1979) in the version adapted for the family Syringophilidae (Bochkov & Mironov 1998). The terminology and leg chaetotaxy follows these of Kethley (1970) and Grandjean (1944). All measurements including scale bars in figures are given in micrometers ( $\mu\text{m}$ ). The setal measurements of holotypes are incomplete, because some setae are broken. The holotypes and paratypes are deposited in the Musée royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren, Belgium (MRAC). Some