

A new genus and a new species of phytoseiid mite (Acari: Phytoseiidae) from northeastern Brazil

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Abstract

A new genus and a new species of phytoseiid mite, *Tenuisternum bahiense* n. g., n. sp., collected from *Solanum paludosum* Moric (Solanaceae), is described from the State of Bahia, northeastern Brazil.

Key words: Acari, Phytoseiidae, taxonomy, predator, Brazil, biological control

Introduction

This paper refers to a new genus and a new species of phytoseiid mite collected while conducting a survey for the determination of predators of the tomato red spider mite, *Tetranychus evansi* Baker & Pritchard (Acari: Tetranychidae), on solanaceous plants in Brazil. The aim was to identify prospective predators for introduction in Africa for the biological control of the red mite.

Setal nomenclature for dorsal and ventral surfaces of the idiosoma is that of Rowel *et al.* (1978) and Chant and Yoshida-Shaul (1991), respectively. All measurements are given in micrometers.

***Tenuisternum* n. g.**

TYPE SPECIES. *Tenuisternum bahiense* n. g., n. sp.