

## Two new species of *Macrobiotus* (Eutardigrada, Macrobiotidae) from Tien Shan (Kirghizia), with notes on *Macrobiotus tenuis* group

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### Abstract

An illustrated description of *Macrobiotus barabanovi* **sp. nov.** and *Macrobiotus kirghizicus* **sp. nov.** from Tien Shan (Kirghizia) is given. *Macrobiotus barabanovi* **sp. nov.** belongs to the *harmsworthi* group. It differs from the majority of species of this group in having very long claws. *Macrobiotus kirghizicus* **sp. nov.** is similar to *M. ariekammensis* in claw morphology, but differs clearly from this species in having differences in bucco-pharyngeal apparatus and characters of the egg processes. Based on the details of the claws structure, *M. ariekammensis* is excluded from the *tenuis* group of the genus *Macrobiotus* and grouped together with *M. kirghizicus* **sp. nov.** in the new *ariekammensis* group.

**Key words:** Tardigrada, *Macrobiotus barabanovi* sp. nov., *Macrobiotus kirghizicus* sp. nov., *tenuis* group, *ariekammensis* group, Kirghizia, Tien Shan

### Introduction

In 1998 a group of specialists from the laboratory of herpetology of the Zoological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (St. Petersburg) collected a few moss samples from different regions of Kirghizia. During the investigation of this material two new species of the genus *Macrobiotus* were found.

### Material and methods

Tardigrades were extracted from dried moss samples. Specimens were fixed with acetic acid and then mounted in Faure fluid.