

A taxonomic study of the genus *Tetra* Keifer (Acari: Eriophyidae: Phyllocoptinae: Anthocoptini) from Shaanxi Province, China with descriptions of nine new species

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Abstract

Nine new species of the genus *Tetra* Keifer (Acari: Eriophyidae: Anthocoptini) from Shaanxi Province, northwestern China are described and illustrated, namely *Tetra louguantais* **sp. nov.** on *Pistacia chinensis* Bunge (Anacardiaceae); *Tetra pinnatifidae* **sp. nov.** on *Crataegus pinnatifida* Bunge (Rosaceae); *Tetra sorbusis* **sp. nov.** on *Sorbus* sp. (Rosaceae); *Tetra acerii* **sp. nov.** on *Acer* sp. (Aceraceae); *Tetra smilaxis* **sp. nov.** on *Smilax china* L. (Liliaceae); *Tetra lucidi* **sp. nov.** on *Ligustrum lucidum* Ait. (Oleaceae); *Tetra ningshanis* **sp. nov.** and *Tetra cuihuae* **sp. nov.** on *Populus* sp. (Salicaceae); and *Tetra salixis* **sp. nov.** on *Salix babylonica* L. (Salicaceae). All species described here are vagrant on the undersurface of host leaves.

Key words: eriophyid mites, key, classification, vagrant, northwestern China, Palaearctic region

Introduction

The genus *Tetra* was established by Keifer (Keifer 1944) based on the type species *Phyllocoptruta concava* Keifer, 1939 and characterized as: body fusiform, often flattened; gnathosoma projecting obliquely down; prodorsal shield with frontal lobe, with scapular tubercles on or near rear margin, and prominent scapular setae, usually divergent and directed posteriorly; opisthosoma with a wide middorsal longitudinal furrow and two lateral ridges; all coxal setae present; legs with usual series of setae. As of 2003, the genus holds 87 species from Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas (Amrine *et al.* 2003). To date, there are 23 *Tetra* species known to occur in China (Hong & Zhang 1996; Huang 2001; Huang & Wang 2004; Kuang 1991 & 1995; Kuang & Hong 1989; Kuang & Zhang 1999; Kuang & Zhuo 1989; Kuang *et al.* 2005; Lin *et al.* 1997; Wang & Lu 2004; Wei *et al.* 2003; Xue & Hong 2005). A key to species in the genus *Tetra* in China is listed herein.