



Uropodina mites with unusual chelicerae from Thailand (Acari: Mesostigmata)

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Abstract

A new monotypic genus *Editella thailandica* **gen. nov., sp. nov.**, is described on the basis of one female and two males collected in Thailand. The new genus is unusual among Uropodina by the presence of an internal sclerotised node associated with the levator tendon in large, strongly dentate chelicerae. Taxonomic notes on the genus *Hutufeideria* are presented and three new species are described (*Hutufeideria thailandica* **sp. nov.**, *Hutufeideria phuketensis* **sp. nov.**, *Hutufeideria alata* **sp. nov.**). The name of the Australian species *Hutufeideria hirschmanni* (Hiramatsu, 1978) is a homonym of *Hutufeideria hirschmanni* Hiramatsu, 1978, from New Guinean, hence *Hutufeideria hirschmannoides* **nom. nov.** is proposed as a replacement name for the Australian species.

Key words: Uropodina, new genus, new species, taxonomy, Thailand

Introduction

Uropodina is a widely distributed group of soil inhabiting mesostigmatid mites which has high diversity in the tropical areas, especially in the tropical rain forests (Lindquist *et al.*, 2009). Despite this diversity, the fauna of several countries of the tropics is poorly known. Thailand is one of the scarcely studied country in South-East Asia, from where only four Uropodina mites were reported previously (Kontschán, 2010a, 2010b).

The unsorted collections of South-East Asian soil, moss and leaf-litter material deposited in Natural History Museum of Geneva (Switzerland) contained several species of Uropodina having strongly dentate or very long chelicerae, which are quite unusual characters in this group of these mites (Kontschán, 2010c).

Material and methods

Specimens were cleared in lactic acid and drawn using a drawing tube. All specimens examined are stored in alcohol and deposited in the Natural History Museum of Geneva (Switzerland). Abbreviations: h1-h4 hypostomal setae, St1-St5 sternal setae. Measurements are given in micrometres (μm), width of idiosoma was taken at level of coxae IV.

Editella gen. nov.

Type species. *Editella thailandica* sp. nov.

Diagnosis. Idiosoma oval, dorsally domed and strongly sclerotised. Dorsal and marginal shields fused anteriorly, all dorsal setae short, with pilose distal margins. Sternal, ventral and marginal setae similar in shape and length to dorsal setae. Dorsal and ventral idiosoma covered by oval pits. Genital shield of female triangular, with web-like sculptural pattern. Peritremes hook-shaped. Leg I without ambulacral claws, with pilose and smooth setae. Hypostomal setae h1 long, h2 short, both with smooth margins, h3 and h4 marginally serrate and short. Palp trochanter