



Article

The false spider mites of the genus *Cenopalpus* Pritchard & Baker (Acari: Tenuipalpidae) from Iran

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Abstract

Four new species of the genus *Cenopalpus* Pritchard and Baker are described from Iran, namely: *C. rubusi* **sp. nov.**, collected from salmonberry bushes, *Rubus persicae* L. (Rosaceae), Sanandaj, Kurdistan province; *C. prunusi* **sp. nov.** from plum trees, *Prunus domestica* L. (Rosaceae), Hamedan, Hamedan province; *C. khosrowshahii* **sp. nov.** from *Sophora alopecuroides* L. (Fabaceae), Hamedan, Hamedan province; and *C. quercusi* **sp. nov.** from oak trees, *Quercus castaneifolia* C.A. Mey. (Fagaceae), Robat Namaki, Lorestan province. Six species are re-described: *C. saryabiensis* Akbar and Chaudhri, 1985, *C. lanceolatisetae* (Attiah, 1956), *C. irani* Dosse, 1971, *C. abaii* Khosrowshahi and Arbabi, 1997, *C. bakeri* Düzgünes, 1967 and *C. crataegi* Dosse, 1971. Of these species, *C. irani* reaches high population density and is widespread. A key to all known Iranian species of the genus is provided.

Key words: Acari, Tenuipalpidae, *Cenopalpus*, false spider mite, new species, re-description, Iran

Introduction

Cenopalpus is one of the largest genera of the family Tenuipalpidae and currently contains 60 species (Mesa *et al.* 2009). Pritchard and Baker (1958) proposed the genus *Cenopalpus* for those species of *Brevipalpus* in which the first pair of dorso-sublateral opisthosomal setae (c_2) is present and the solenidia on tarsi I and II are slender and