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Introducing Part 4 of "A Survey of Mite Lifespans"

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This series was started in 2021 to provide a survey of mite lifespans and associated life history data (Zhang 2021). Three parts have been published since then. Part I includes seven reviews on the suborder Oribatida (excluding Astigmata), the superfamily Eriophyoidea and families Winterschmidtiidae, Tydeidae, Anystidae, Cheyletidae, and Blattisociidae (Zhang 2021). Part 2 includes three reviews on three families of great applied importance: Tetranychidae, Phytoseiidae, and LaelapidaeI (Zhang 2022). Part 3 covers the lifespan and other life history data of the order Ixodida and families Parasitidae and Rhodacaridae (both of Mesostigmata) (Zhang 2024). I am delighted to introduce Part 4 of this series, with three reviews for three important families of economic significance: Acaridae (K. Zhang *et al*. 2025; Astigmata), Stigmaeidae (Gong & Fan 2025; Trombidiformes) and Pyemotidae (Huang *et al.* 2025; Trombidiformes).

The four parts in this series encompass a wide range of studies on mite lifespans and other aspects of their life history, with particular emphasis on economically important taxa that have been more thoroughly studied. However, substantial gaps remain in lifespan data for many groups within the Astigmata, Trombidiformes, and Mesostigmata that are of lesser economic importance. I therefore welcome contributions from specialists working on these taxa for Part 5 of the series, which is planned for late 2026.

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