

An introduction to Part IX of “Ontogeny and morphological diversity in immature mites”

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This special series on mite ontogeny was initiated in 2018 to promote and accelerate research on the ontogeny and morphological diversity in immature mites (Zhang 2018). Since its inception, the series has published 65 articles across eight volumes (Zhang *et al.* 2018, 2019, 2020a,b, 2023, 2024; Fuangarworn *et al.* 2021; Zhang & Fuangarworn 2022).

This present volume adds seven articles: five addressing various families of the Oribatida (Ermilov & Kirnev 2025; Ermilov & Kontschán 2025; Ermilov & Makarova 2025; Kolesnikov *et al.* 2025; Zhang & Fan 2025), one on the Phytoseiidae (Feng *et al.* 2025), and one on the Eriophyoidea (Liang *et al.* 2025).

The tenth volume of the series is scheduled for mid-July 2026, with a submission deadline of 1 April 2026.

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