

MICHERDZINSKI W.: DIE FAMILIE PARASITIDAE
OUDEMANS 1901 (ACARINA, MESOSTIGMATA).

Kraków 1969, pp. 690, price zł. 160,—

This unusually elaborate and well organized treatise contains an analysis of the family Parasitidae (i.e. of the genera *Pergamasus* Berl., *Holoparasitus* Oudms., *Parasitus* Latr., *Saprogamasus* Willm., *Gamasodes* Oudms., *Pocillochirus* Can., *Oocarpus* Berl.). A concise, but exhaustive introduction, in which the author summarizes the knowledge on morphology, anatomy and bionomy is followed by detailed descriptions of separate taxonomic units, arranged in major part according to the freshly collected and dissected material. A key to the species is included in each introduction to separate genera, but keys to the genera are missing and therefore it is necessary to deter-

mine the latter according to generic diagnoses, which are very particular. The descriptions are accompanied by 452 mostly full-page figures, almost each consisting of a large number of drawings and details. With few exceptions all figures are the author's originals. After more than sixty years since the publication of Berlese's classic monograph, the family Parasitidae has been given a modern revision which will considerably facilitate further research work, although some small synonymic changes will be perhaps necessary, especially in those cases when the author had to rely upon very imperfect old descriptions only.

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