

MIMICALGES AN ANALGID-LIKE GENUS OF PROCTOPHYLLODIDAE (ACARINA: ANALGOIDEA)

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Abstract. *Mimicalges*, n.g. (Proctophyllodidae: Proctophyllodinae), type species: *Proctophyllodes (Alloptes) pteronyssoides* Trouessart, 1885, from South American Pipridae (Aves: Tyranni) is described. The species superficially resembles feather mites of the family Analgidae.

Typically the feather mite family Proctophyllodidae with the subfamilies Proctophyllodinae, Trouessartiinae, and Alloptinae have broad, unornamented dorsal idiosomal shields with the scapular setae widely separated, that is, the external scapular setae are inserted nearer the idiosomal margins than the meson. In the Proctophyllodinae and many of the Trouessartiinae, epimerites I of the males and females are U-, V-shaped, or free. Conversely, the Analgidae, including the subfamilies Analginae and Xolalginae, usually have the propodosomal shields narrow and ornamented with differential sclerotizations and have the scapular setae approximate to each other. Many of the genera included in the Analgidae have epimerites I Y-shaped with sclerotizations connecting the anterior ends of the Y to the level of trochanters I and many have legs III and/or IV elongated; a few genera are characterized by dorsal apophyses in the form of spines.

Proctophyllodes (Alloptes) pteronyssoides Trouessart, 1885, is another example of the aberrant modifications of many of the feather mites from the avian suborder Tyranni. The first impression of this species is that it should be placed in the Analgidae; typical analgid characters include the reduced dorsal shields, especially the propodosomal shield with the scapular setae grouped near the midline, the light sclerotization of the idiosoma, legs III long and narrow, and legs IV long and thickened. However, the positions of the subhumeral setae posterior to the humeral setae, the absence of solenidia σ_1 on genua II, and the oval ambulaera with central structures triangular and lateral platelets unguiform are familial and subfamilial characters of the Proctophyllodinae. The fusion of the femora and genua of legs III and IV is not unique as similar modifications have been observed in other species of the Proctophyllodinae in which the posterior legs have become enlarged.

***Mimicalges* g. n.**

Diagnosis: Proctophyllodine mites; males with epimerites I Y-shaped with secondary sclerotizations connecting arms of Y; dorsal idiosoma with narrow shields; scapular setae approximate; subhumeral setae long, spiculiform. Ventral idiosoma with extensive surface fields around posterior epimerites; epimerites IVa and pregenital shields forming Q-shaped arch across venter anterior to genital region. Legs III-IV elongated, genua and femora fused, small ambulae. Female unknown.

Type species: *Proctophyllodes (Alloptes) pteronyssoides* Trouessart, 1885.

Derivation: Contraction of *mimikos*, imitative + *Analges*; masculine.

***Mimicalges pteronyssoides* (Trouessart), new comb.**

Proctophyllodes (Alloptes) pteronyssoides Trouessart, 1885, Bull. Soc. Etud. sci. Angers, 14: 65-6.
Alloptes pteronyssoides: Canestrini and Kramer, 1899, Tierreich, 7: 110; Radford, 1953, Parasitol., 43 (3, 4): 213; Radford, 1958, Revta. bras. Entomol., 8: 148.

The species is unique; if additional species of the genus can be discovered, then it will be possible to separate the genus and species characters which may be intermingled in the following description.

Male: Length of idiosoma and gnathosoma 350 μ ; width 157 μ . Dorsal idiosoma with propodosomal shield long, narrow, with weakly sclerotized area between external scapular setae; external scapulars separated by 25 μ ; hysterosomal shield narrowest at level of legs IV, expanded posteriorly with 2 medial ridges prolonged into 2 spinelike

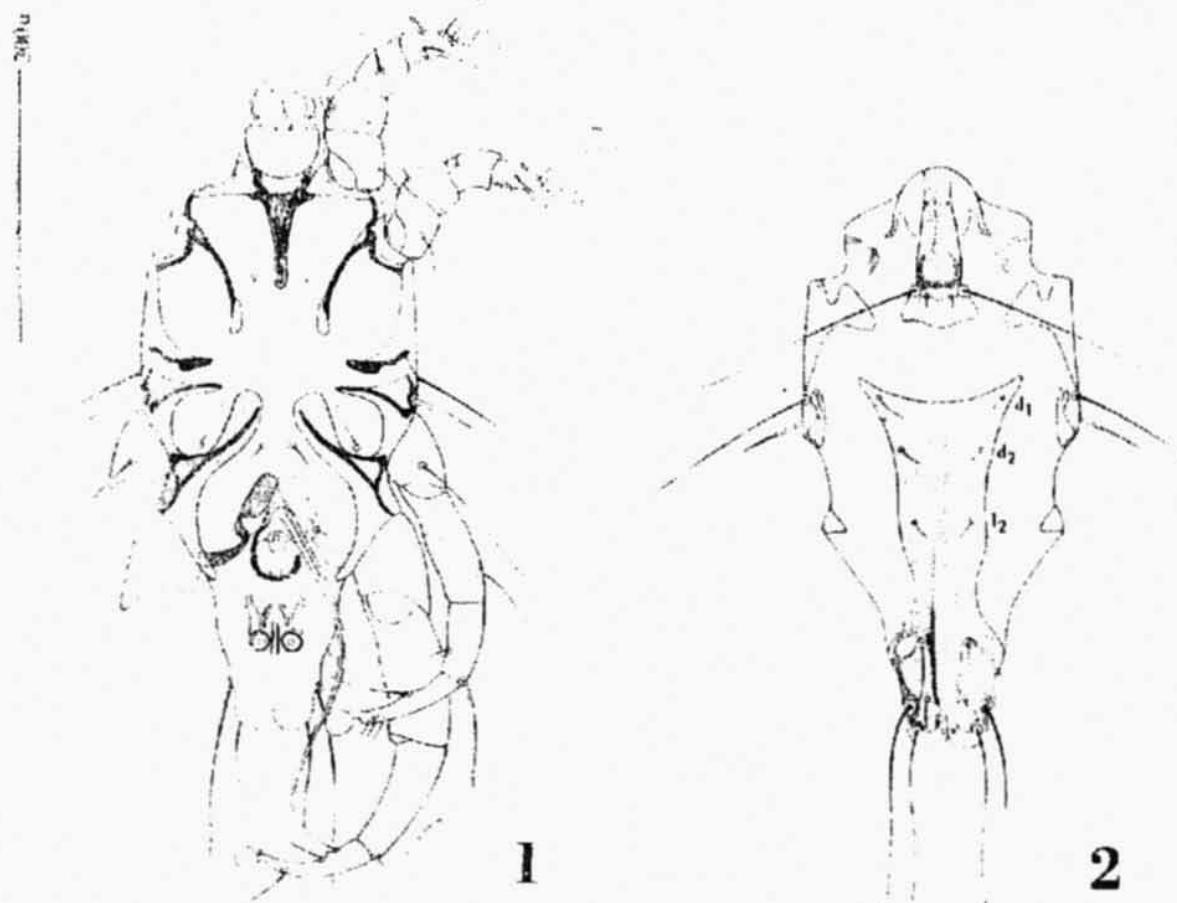


Fig. 1. *Mimicalges pteronyssoides* (Trouessart), 1885: ventral and dorsal aspects of male (1, 2).

apophyses, setae l_2 positioned between setae d_2 and d_3 ; terminal lamellae reduced; setae pai , pae minute. Ventral idiosoma with epimerites I Y-shaped; epimerites IVa connected to two oval pregenital sclerites; genital arch and subgenital shield forming heavily sclerotized and interrupted ring; genital organ flagelliform, about 176 μ in length. Legs I-II 5-segmented; legs III elongated, slender, 205 μ in length; legs IV elongated, thick, 265 μ in length; tarsi III-IV noticeably narrower than proximal segments.

Female: Unknown.

Type data. From *Pipra aureola* (Pipridae): lectoholotype male, Amérique méridionale; lectoparatype male, *Pipra erythrocephala*, same data. Location of types: Trouessart Collection, Paris.

Remarks. Additional material (2 males) were collected from skins of *Chiroxiphia caudata* (Pipridae) from Argentina and Brazil. The lectoholotypes of this species and *Diproctophyllodes dielytra* [= *Proctophyllodes (Alloptes) dielytra* Trouessart, 1885] were taken from the same study skin by Trouessart. The collection from the Argentine bird occurred with numerous males and females of *D. dielytra* and a few proctophyllodine females of unknown affinities. These latter specimens have a primary spermiduct measuring about 133 μ from the external opening to the spermatheca; the genital organ of *Mimicalges pteronyssoides* is about 176 μ in length. If the males of *M. pteronyssoides* behave as do males of *Proctophyllodes* species, the complete intromittent organ is inserted; from the measurements, it seems improbable that the unknown females could be associated with the *M. pteronyssoides* males as there is a discrepancy of about 43 μ between the lengths of the genital organ and the primary spermiduct.

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