NEW FINDINGS OF MESOSTIGMATIC MITES FROM RODENTS IN THE TERRITORY OF AFGHANISTAN

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Abstract. A survey is given of mesostigmatic mites collected in Afghanistan from 7 species of rodents. From a total of 11 mite species identified *Laelaps echidninus, L. nuttalli, Hoenoponius griseipes* and *Androlaelaps longipes* were found in Afghanistan for the first time.

Systematic studies on mesostigmatic mites have been started in Afghanistan only recently. The first comprehensive treatment of smaller collections was published by Dusbahek (1970) and Daniel (1977). Arsenieva and Neromov (1980), who summarized the data obtained to date, report that from ten localities in the territory of Afghanistan only 28 species of mesostigmatic mites are known.

In October 1977 we trapped and examined a total of 89 specimens of small terrestrial mammals on the presence of parasitic mites Kabul, Laghman, Salang Pass, Khenjan and Ghazni. On 49 positive rodents of the species *Cricetulus migratorius* (Pallas), *Alticola rogersi* (Gray), *Microtus afghanus* Thomas, *Meriones libycus* Lichtenstein, *Rattus rattoides* Hodgson, *Mus musculus* L., *Neosokia indica* (Gray et Hardwicke) we collected a total of 299 specimens belonging to 11 species of mesostigmatic mites, which are listed in the present communication. We discuss in detail only the findings of species new for the territory of Afghanistan. Similar data on other species are contained in the work of Daniel (1977) and Zemskaya et al. (1981).

LIST OF SPECIES FOUND

**Laelaps algericus** Hirst, 1925

33 ♂, 1 ♀, 4 Dm, 21 Pn on 13 *M. musculus*, Kabul 2.—10. 10. 1977; 13 ♂, 3 Pn on 4 *M. musculus*, Khenjan 15. 10. 1977.

**Laelaps echidninus** Berlese, 1887

1 ♀, 1 Pn on 1 *N. indica*, Laghman 12. 10. 1977.

The first finding in the territory of Afghanistan. After Mitchell et al. (1966) it is a world-wide common species on *Rattus* spp. living in association with man; records from mammals other than *Rattus* spp. may represent only temporary associations.

**Laelaps jettmari** Vitzthum, 1930


**Laelaps nuttalli** Hirst, 1915

22 ♂, 14 ♀, 4 Dm, 3 Pn on 2 *N. indica*, Laghman 12. 10. 1977.

The first finding in the territory of Afghanistan. A widespread species of the tropical and warm temperate zone, parasitizing a wide range of hosts; the representatives of the genus *Rattus* are preferred among them (Allred 1969b).
Laelaps turkestanicus Lange, 1955
2*: 6, 7, 8; 3* on 2 R. ratti, Khenjan 15. 10. 1977.

Androlaelaps longipes (Bregertova, 1952)
3*: 3; 4; 7; 8; 3* on 8 M. Ebola, Ghazni 17.-18. 10. 1977.

The first finding in the territory of Afghanistan. It is a species of Iranian-turan and Central Asian origin (Zemskaya et al. 1981), known from Egypt, Yemen, Israel (Till 1983), Transcaucasia, Ciscaucasia, Kazakhstan, Central Asia (Rybtov 1960), Iran (Zemskaya et al. 1981) and Pakistan (Allrod 1969a). It is rather closely associated with different species of gerbils (Gerbillinae).

Hypoaspis miles (Borlee, 1802)
2* on 1 C. migratorius, Ghazni 18. 10. 1977.

Haemogamasus gyninodes Allrod, 1969
1* on A. reyes, Salang Pass 15. 10. 1977.

The first finding in the territory of Afghanistan. Allrod (1969a) described this species from Pakistan from the same host.

Eutrechellus strobularis (Koch, 1836)
4* on 2 M. musculus; 4* on 2 C. migratorius, Kabul 4.—6. 10. 1977.

Liponyssoides sanguineus (Hirst, 1914)
3*: 1; 2; 7; 8; 3* on 4 M. musculus, 3*: 7; 8; 3* on 3 C. migratorius, 5*: 2; 6* on 4 M. afghanus, Kabul 4.—6. 10. 1977; 3*: 1; 2; 7; 8; 3* on 1 M. meridionalis, Kabul 12. 10. 1977.

Hirstonyssus buttanecensis (Fonseca, 1932)
3*: 1; 2; 7; 8; 3* on 1 M. musculus, Kabul 2.—4. 10. 1977; 2* on 1 M. musculus, Khenjan 15. 10. 1977.

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Новые находки мезоэстиматических клещей от Грызунов Афганистана

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Результаты. В обзоре мезоэстиматических клещей, собранных из территории Афганистана с 7 видов грызуноядных. Из общего числа 11 видов клещей Laelaps edithdiana, L. ratti, Haemogamasus gyninodes и Androlaelaps longipes впервые обнаружены в Афганистане.

REFERENCES


