Pacific Insects 10 (1): 43-45 10 May 1968

PARANEONYSSUS DENDROCITTI, A NEW SPECIES OF RHINONYSSIDAE (Acari: Mesostigmata) FROM TAIWAN[1]

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Abstract: A new nasal mite, *Paraneonyssus dendrocitti*, was found among the Bishop Museum's collection from Taiwan. The new species differs from other species of the genus *Paraneonyssus* in the following characters: 2 dorsal plates of which the posterior covers most of opisthosoma; ventral body and leg setae minute; anal plate almost circular; body slightly constricted above coxa IV.

The following new species of nasal mite was collected on Taiwan by T. C. Maa in the course of an intensive survey of ectoparasites of Taiwan birds.

Paraneonyssus dendrocitti Sakakibara and Strandtmann, new species

♀. Body: 604–615 μ long, 425–450 μ wide. *Dorsum*: 2 large heavily punctate plates; podosomal 226–235 μ long, 295–310 μ wide, broadly rounded anteriorly, sides constricted posterolaterally, slightly convex posteriorly, 6 pairs of minute setae; opisthosomal 290–300 μ long, 290–305 μ wide, anterior margin slightly concave, posterior margin broadly rounded, sides more or less straight, 2–3 pairs of minute setae; 1 pair of minute setae posterolateral to podosomal plate and 2 pairs of setae lateral to opisthosomal plate; peritreme including stigma, 25–32 μ long, above coxa III; 2 pairs of pores anterolateral to peritreme. *Venter*: Sternal plate with indefinite margins, broadly rounded posteriorly, 130–143 μ long, 70–88 μ wide; all sternal setae minute, 1st pair on the plate, 2nd and 3rd pairs off it; 2 pairs of pores, posterolateral to 1st and 2nd pairs of setae. Genital plate wider than sternal plate, 156–168 μ long, 140–158 μ wide, posterior margin broadly rounded, 1 pair of minute setae on the plate; anal plate 101–105 μ long, 83–90 μ wide, nearly circular in shape, cribrum reduced, lateral and posterior margin thicker than anterior margin; anal pore central, with paired setae opposite middle of pore. Opisthosoma with 4 pairs of minute setae, of which 2 pairs are between genital and anal plate; other 2 pairs anterolateral to anal plate. *Gnathosoma*: No deutosternal groove, no capitular setae but 3 pairs of minute hypostomal setae, of which the inner posterior pair is longer than other 2 pairs. Chelicera with apical 1/3 narrower than basal 2/3. *Legs chaetotaxy*: Tarsus I with a long rigid piliform seta at base of sensitive area; tarsi II–IV each with 3 small slender piliforms middorsally, 1 apical, 1 medial, 1 on basitarsus; all genua with 1 dorsal, slender, piliform; trochanters I–III each with 2 and trochanter IV with 1, small, weak, piliforms ventrally. In addition, all tarsi have 2–3 distinct, apical piliforms. All

1. This investigation was carried out under the project "South Pacific Insects of Public Health Importance" supported by a grant to Bishop Museum from the National Institutes of Health (AI-01723).

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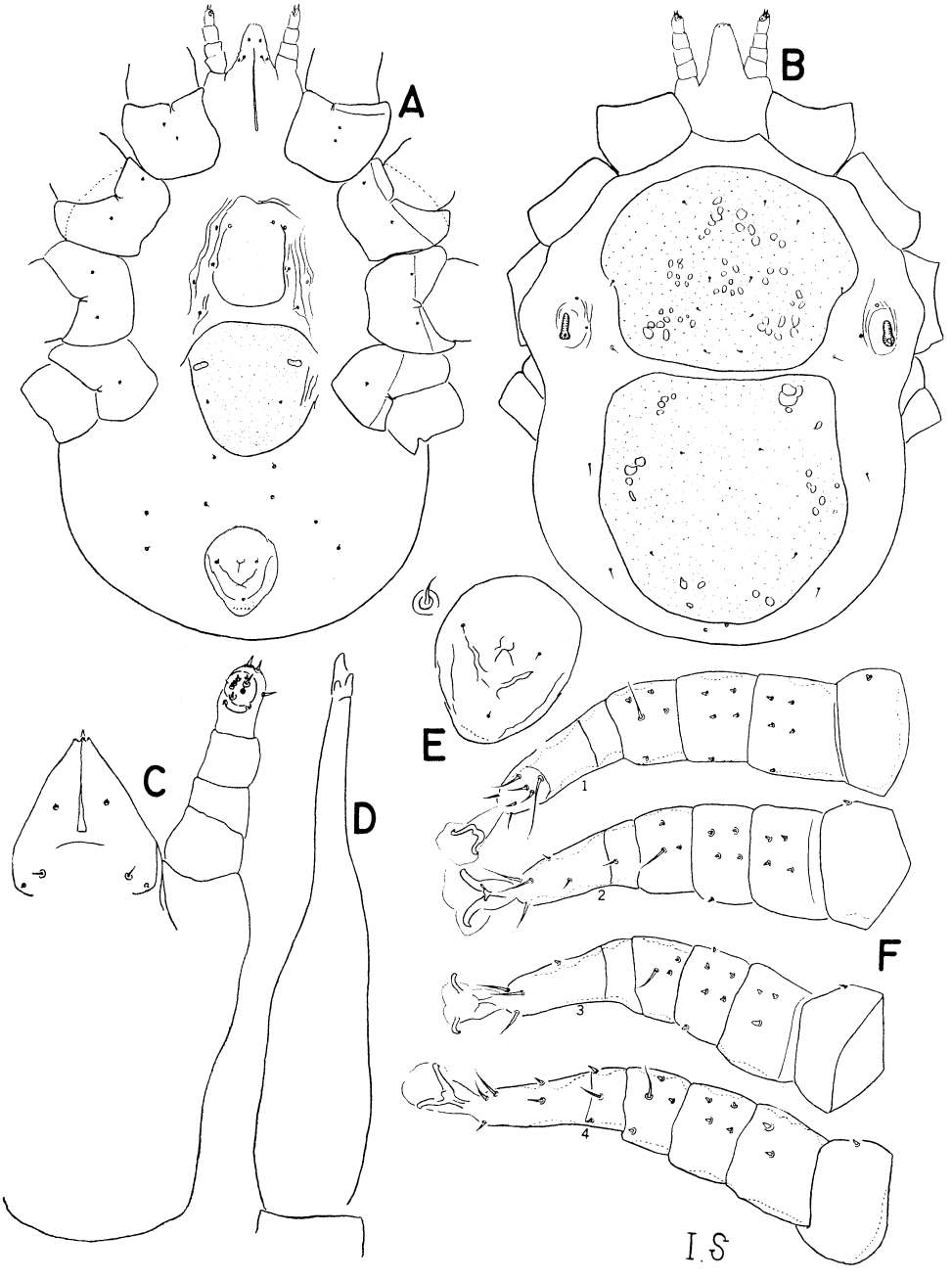

Fig. 1. *Paraneonyssus dendrocitti*, n. sp. A, ♀ ventral view with enlarged drawing of ventral seta; B, dorsal view; C, gnathosoma; D, chelicera; E, anal plate; F, dorsal views of trochanters-tarsi 1–4.

other leg setae are small spiniforms. Setal formula of legs as in the following table:

Setal Formula of Legs

	I	II	III	IV
Tarsus	——	$4\frac{4}{4}2$	$3\frac{3}{6}1$	$4\frac{3}{6}2$
Tibia	$1\frac{4}{2}2$	$1\frac{3}{2}0$	$1\frac{2}{3}0$	$0\frac{3}{3}1$
Genu	$1\frac{4}{1}1$	$1\frac{4}{2}1$	$0\frac{4}{4}1$	$0\frac{4}{2}0$
Femur	$0\frac{4}{1}1$	$0\frac{4}{1}0$	$0\frac{3}{1}0$	$0\frac{2}{2}0$
Trochanter	$0\frac{0}{2}1$	$1\frac{0}{3}0$	$1\frac{0}{3}0$	$1\frac{0}{2}0$

Holotype: ♀ (BISHOP 3605), taken from the nasal passages of bird, the Malaysian tree-pie, *Dendrocitta occipitalis* collected at Puli, Nanton Hsien, Taiwan (TMT 557-564) by T. C. Maa. Deposited in the Acarology Collection of Bishop Museum, Honolulu. Paratypes: 4♀♀, same data as holotype.

Remarks. *Paraneonyssus* Castro, 1948 is considered by most authors to be a synonym of *Ptilonyssus* Berlese and Trouessart 1889, but we consider those ptilonyssid mites with gradually tapered chelicera, 2 long dorsal plates, and a distinct peritreme to constitute a distinct genus, *Paraneonyssus*. The combination of wide opisthosomal plate and minute ventral and coxal setae serve to distinguish this mite from its cogeners.