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First record of the water mite genus *Momonides* Lundblad from the Afrotropical region (Acari: Hydrachnidia: Momoniidae)

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Abstract

A new species of the genus *Momonides* Lundblad, 1941 is described from Ghana. This is the first record of the genus from the Afrotropical region.

Key words: Acari, Hydrachnidia, *Momonides*, Afrotropical region, new species

Introduction

The water mite genus *Momonides* Lundblad, 1941 has a disjunct distribution and is known from two species from the Oriental region (Java and Sulawesi, Wiles [1999]) and one species from the Palaearctic region (Corsica, Angelier [1951]). The genus differs from other members of the family Momoniidae by peculiar, irregularly lobed dorsal and ventral sclerites and by numerous acetabula in three groups (Cook 1974). All other members of the family have three or four pairs of acetabula.

A finding of a new species in Ghana extends its distribution to the Afrotropical region. The new species is described below.

Material and methods

The following abbreviations have been used: PI-PV = palp segments 1–5; RMNH = Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Leiden; asl = above sea level. All measurements are in μm , measurements of palp and leg segments are given as dorsal lengths.

Systematics

Family Momoniidae K. Viets

Genus *Momonides* Lundblad, 1941

Momonides ghanaensis sp. nov.

(Figs. 1–5)

Material examined: Holotype male, small rainforest stream, Atewa Hills upstream Sagyimase, Ghana, 6° 13.964 N 0° 33.116 W, alt. 654 m asl, 8-iii-2011, leg. H. Smit (RMNH).