

***Stigmaeus miandoabiensis* sp. nov. (Acari: Trombidiformes: Stigmaeidae), with redescription of *S. siculus* (Berlese, 1883) from Iran**

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Abstract

A new species, *Stigmaeus miandoabiensis* sp. nov. (Acari: Stigmaeidae), is described and a new record, *S. siculus* (Berlese, 1883) for Iran is re-described. A key to the Iranian species of *Stigmaeus* is provided

Key words: Acari, Stigmaeidae, *Stigmaeus*, new species, Iran.

Introduction

The Stigmaeidae (Acari: Trombidiformes: Prostigmata) is a family within the superfamily Raphignathoidea and consists of 30 genera and over 500 species (Zhang *et al.* 2011). At least three genera contain species that roam the plant leaves and prey on other small arthropods (Summers, 1966; Ueckermann and Meyer, 1987). The genus *Stigmaeus* is one of the most important genera and is known with only ten species in Iran, namely: *S. unicus* Kuznetsov, 1977; *S. pilatus* Kuznetsov, 1978; *S. elongatus* Berlese, 1886; *S. candidus* Fan and Li, 1993; *S. alvandis* Khanjani and Ueckermann, 2002; *S. malekii* Haddad *et al.*, 2006; *S. shabestariensis* Haddad, Lotfolahi and Akbari, 2010; *S. shendabadiensis* Haddad, Akbari and Lotfolahi, 2010; *S. boshroyehensis* Khanjani *et al.*, 2010 and *S. marandiensis* Bagheri and Ueckermann, 2011 (Bagheri *et al.*, 2011; Khanjani *et al.*, 2010). In this paper, *S. miandoabiensis* sp. nov. and *S. siculus* as a new record are added to the list of the Iranian stigmaeid fauna.

Material and methods

Mites were extracted from soil using a Berlese funnel; specimens were cleared in Nesbitt's fluid, mounted in Hoyer's medium (Walter and Krantz, 2009) and examined under 1000× magnification of an Olympus Bx40 phase contrast microscope. The length of the idiosoma was measured from the base of the chelicerae to the posterior margin of the suranal shield; the width of the idiosoma was measured at the broadest part between coxae II and III. The legs measurements are done from base of trochanter to pretarsus. Setae were measured from their insertions to their tips; distances between setae were measured between their insertions. The terminology and abbreviations are based on Kethley (1990). All measurements are given in micrometers (µm).