

Article

## A new species of the genus *Storchia* Oudemans (Acari: Stigmaeidae) from northwest Iran

MOHAMMAD HASSANZADEH<sup>A</sup>, MOHAMMAD KHANJANI<sup>\*B</sup>, MOHAMMAD HASSAN SAFARALIZADEH<sup>A</sup> & SHAHARAM MIRFAKHRAIE<sup>A</sup>

a. Department of Plant Protection, College of Agriculture, University of Urmia, Urmia, Iran (e-mail: moh\_1353k@yahoo.com)

b. Department of Plant Protection, College of Agriculture, Bu–Ali Sina University, Hamedan, Iran (e-mail: mkhanjani@gmail.com)

\*Author to whom correspondence should be addressed (email: mkhanjani@gmail.com).

### Abstract

A new species of the genus *Storchia*, *S. elhamae* sp. nov. is described and illustrated based on females collected from grass litters in Mahabad countryside, western Azerbaijan province, Iran. A key to all known species of the world is provided.

**Key words:** Mite, predatory mites, tree, stored product, specimen

### Introduction

The genus *Storchia* is one of the smallest genera of the family Stigmaeidae. They live in soil, litter, moss, tree bark, house dust and stored products (Fan & Yan, 1997; Miranda *et al.* 2002; Doğan & Ayyıldız, 2003; Noei *et al.* 2007; Palyvos *et al.* 2008; Safasadi & Khanjani, 2010). Up to present, nine species of the genus was reported, namely: *S. robustus* (Berlese, 1885); *S. hendersonae* Fan & Zhang, 2005; *S. shanghaiensis* (Liang & Hu, 1988); *S. annae* Fan & Li, 1993; *S. cuneata* Fan & Yan, 1997; *S. pacifica* (Summers, 1964); *S. ardabiliensis* Safasadati & Khanjani, 2010; *S. yazdani* Bagheri *et al.* 2011; *S. mehrvari* Bagheri *et al.* 2012. According to the references one third of all known species were recorded from Iran. In this paper the tenth species of the genus is presented.

### Materials and methods

Type materials of were collected from grass litter in Mahabad vicinity (36° 51' 12" N, 45° 17' 13" E, 1433 a.s.l.), west Azerbaijan province and were extracted by using a Berlese funnel. The collected mites were mounted directly in Hoyer's medium on glass slides and then dried in an oven at 50°C for 10 days. The specimen was examined under an Olympus BX<sub>51</sub> phase contrast microscope. Drawings were made with a camera Lucida. The terminology and setal notations used in the description of the new species follow that of Lindquist (1985). All measurements are given in micrometers (µm).