

## NEW RECORDS OF SOME TROMBICULID AND SARCOPTID MITES AND THEIR HOSTS FROM INDIA<sup>1</sup>

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**ABSTRACT:** *Myobia musculi* (Shrank), *Radfordia* sp., *Listrophoridia* sp. and the subfamily Labidocarpinae form new records for India. *Cheyletus* sp. and *Gahrlicpiea* (*Schongastiella*) *gammonsii* are recorded for the first time from the hosts *Tatera indica* and *Mus booduga*, respectively.

**DESCRIPTORS:** Acarine ectoparasites, rats and mice, India.

During a survey of the acarine ectoparasites of rats and mice in Punjab, 2460 acarines including 52 ixodid ticks (10 nymphs and 42 larvae) and 2408 mites were collected from 330 rats and mice. Of these acarines, some mites, in addition to their new hosts, also form new records from India infesting rats and mice which are being reported in this paper.

### Suborder I. TROMBIDIFORMES

#### Family 1. CHEYLETIDAE

##### *Cheyletus* sp

*Collection Data:*<sup>3</sup> 4 F<sup>4</sup>, ex. *Tatera indica*, 8.V.1975

So far this genus *Cheyletus* has been recorded from India as *Cheyletus fortis* Oudemans infesting bark of unidentified tree and stored potatoes from Tamil Nadu and West Bengal (Cherian, 1931; Ghai, 1964 and Gupta, 1970) and as *Cheyletus malacensis* Oudemans infesting stored fish and prawns and feeding on the mite *Lardoglyphus konoii* (Sasa and Asanuma) (found on dry fish in South India by Hughes, 1961) (Pillai, 1957 and Hughes, 1961).

So, *Tatera indica* forms new host record for this genus which may be due to the contamination.

#### Family 2. MYOBIIDAE

##### 1. *Myobia musculi* (Shrank)

*Collection Data:* 1F, ex. *Mus booduga*, 28.IV.1975

A single female specimen of *Myobia musculi* (Shrank) was collected from Punjab infesting *Mus booduga*.

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<sup>3</sup> All collections were made in Ludhiana

<sup>4</sup> F stands for female and L for larva

2. *Radfordia* sp

*Collection Data:* 1F, ex. *Rattus rattus*, 26.III.1975; 1F, ex. *Mus booduga*, 30.IV.1975; 1F, ex. *Tatera indica*, 1.V.1975; 1F, ex. *R. rattus*, 26.VI.1975; 2F, ex. *R. rattus*, 8.VIII.1975.

It is interesting to note that this genus has not previously been known from this country.

## Family 3. TROMBICULIDAE

## Subfamily Gahrlepiinae

*Gahrlepiea (Schoengastiella) gammonsii* Traub and Evans

*Collection Data:* 1L, ex. *Mus booduga*, 3.V.1975; 1L, ex. *Mus booduga*, 16.V.1975.

This species has already been reported from Assam parasitizing a short tailed shrew (*Anourosorex squamipes assamensis*, Anderson) (Traub and Evans, 1953). Here it has been collected from its new host, *Mus booduga*.

## Order II. SARCOPTIFORMES

## Family LISTROPHORIDAE

## Subfamily 1. LABIDOCARPINAE

*Collection Data:* 2F, ex. *Millardia meltada*, 17.X.1974; 3F, ex. *M. meltada*, 22.III.1975; 2F, ex. *Mus booduga*, 23.IV.1975; 3F, ex. *M. meltada*, 31.VII.1975.

The specimens could not be identified further. The subfamily itself is a first record from India.

## Subfamily 2. LISTROPHORINAE

*Listrophoridia* sp

*Collection Data:* 1F, ex. *Millardia meltada*, 21.IX.1974; 2F, ex. *M. meltada*, 17.X.1974; 1F, ex. *M. meltada*; 22.III.1975; 4F, ex. *Mus booduga*, 23.IV.1975; 1F, ex. *M. meltada*, 18.VII.1975; 1F, ex. *M. meltada*, 28.IX.1975.

This is recorded for the first time from India.

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