A NEW SPECIES OF THE FAMILY MOCHLOZETIDAE (ACARINA : ORIBATIDA) FROM TRIPURA, INDIA

A. K. SANYAL, SUSMITA SAHA* AND S. CHAKRABORTY**
Zoological Survey of India, M-Block, New Alipore, Kolkata-700 053

INTRODUCTION


The measurement of the specimens are given in micron (μm). The type specimens are deposited in the National Zoological Collection, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata.

Genus Unguizetes Sellnick

1925. Unguizetes Sellnick, Treubia, 6 : 473.

Type-species : Unguizetes triplicatus Grandjean, 1960.

The genus Unguizetes was instituted by Sellnick (1925) with U. sphaerula as the type collected from Java. Unguizetes triplicatus Grandjean, 1960 was considered as the type (as originally


Chakrabarti et al. (1973) reported the genus for the first time from Indian territory. Chakrabarti et al. (1977) and Sanyal (1992) reported the genus from West Bengal. The genus is reported for the second time from Tripura.

*Generic Diagnosis*: Fairly large species; lamellae connected by linear translamella; cuspis not projecting from line of translamella; no chitinous bridge between pteromorphae; notogaster nearly circular, as long as broad, setae entirely reduced and indicated by 10 pairs of minute alveoli, with 4 pairs of area porosae; legs moderately long and tridactylyous.


**DESCRIPTION OF SPECIES**

*Unguizetes granulatus* sp. nov.

(Text figs. 1-3)

*Colour*: Brown.

*Measurements* (in \(\mu m\)): Length of the body: 855-875; width of the body: 724–750.

*Prodorsum*: Prodorsum distinctly granulated; rostrum rounded; rostral setae moderately long (66), smaller than their mutual distance (84), thin with pointed tip, barbed outwardly; lamellar setae smooth, thin, long (122), smaller than their mutual distance (141), arise from translamellar crest; translamella with an undulation at middle and lateral crest which joins with broad lamellae; interlamellar setae longest (179) of all prodorsal setae, smooth, thin, arise from elevated base above dorsosejugal line; exobothridial setae short (28), thin, bilaterally barbed; sensillus with long stalk (94) and lanceolate head.

*Notogaster*: Dorsosejugal suture faint and incomplete like other members of this genus; pteromorphae immovable; notogastral setae represented by 7 pairs of alveoli; 4 pairs of area porosae, \(Aa, A_1, A_2, A_3; A_2\) placed in middle of \(A_1\) and \(A_3\); notogaster densely granulated.

*Ano-genital Region*: Ano-genital region finely punctated; genital plates rectangular (length: 94, width: 85) with 6 pairs of smooth, minute setae; anal plates separated from genital plates by a distance of 150; anal plates punctated, squarish (length: 188, width: 188) with 2 pairs of
minute setae; 3 pairs of minute adanal setae; aggenital setae 1 pair, very short; iad parallel to anal plates.

Legs: Tridactyrous. Leg chaetotaxy: I : 4-4-5+1-20-3; II : 4-3-3+1-11-3; III : 2-2-4-8-3; IV : 1-2-3-10-3.

Fig. 1. : Unguizetes granulatus sp. nov., Dorsal view.
Fig. 2. : *Unguizetes granulatus* sp. nov., ventral view.


*Distribution*: INDIA: Tripura (South District).

*Remarks*: The new species approaches close to *Unguizetes clavatus* Aoki, 1967 in body shape, nature of rostral setae and ventral characters, but can easily be separated from the latter species in having smooth lamellar and interlamellar setae, sensillus with long stalk and lanceolated head, fine
Fig. 3: Legs (I–IV) of *Unguizetes granulatus* sp. nov.
granulation on notogaster, punctated ventral plates, absence of a projection in the middle of rostrum, absence of a crest behind the translamella and also in absence of beaded string like ornamentation on notogaster.

**SUMMARY**

The paper contains the description along with illustrations of a new species *viz.*, *Unguizetes granulatus* from Tripura, India.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The authors are thankful to the Director, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata and Head of the Department of Zoology, University of Kalyani, Nadia, West Bengal, for laboratory facilities.

**REFERENCES**


