

JAN BOCZEK
Warsaw Agricultural University, Poland

Two species of eriophyid mites new to Italy
(*Acarina Eriophyidae*)

Two species of eriophyid mites (*Eriophyidae*) are discussed in the paper. First of them, found as causing some damages to *Aphelandra squarrosa* Nees, *Epitrimerus rotai* n. sp., is described as new. Second species, *Aculops reticulatus* (Nal.) was found as causing some discoloration of *Populus* leaves. Since the NALEPA's description of the species is scarce full data with drawings are here given. The new specific name is in honor of Prof. dr. P. ROTA, Istituto di Entomologia agraria, Milano, Italy, who collected the material.

***Epitrimerus rotai* n. sp. (fig. 1)**

Female. 220 (192-222) μ long, 65 μ wide, 60 μ thick, yellow in color. Dorsal shield 67 μ long, 62 μ wide, with broad, blunt, 14 μ long lobe over rostrum. Dorsal shield with two admedian lines, with dorsal tubercles 12 μ from rear shield margin; these tubercles 17 μ apart. Dorsal setae 4 μ long, directed up and centrally. Rostrum small, 24 μ long, with adapical seta 8 μ long. Chelicerae 14 μ long, almost straight. Forelegs 37 μ long; tibia 9 μ long, with 4 μ long seta; tarsus 7 μ long, featherclaw 4-rayed, minute; claw slightly longer than featherclaw, 7 μ long, strongly knobbed. Hindlegs 35 μ long; tarsus 7 μ long. Coxae with longitudinal strikes and lines, not forming sternum. Thanosome with 34-40 smooth tergites and about 74 microtuberculate sternites. Dorsal ridge low but distinct, subdorsal ridges very low. Lateral setae 25 μ long, on sternite 16th; I ventral setae 45 μ long, on sternite 32nd; II ventral 21 μ long, on sternite 53rd. Telosome of 8 rings; the seta 26 μ long, on sternite 6th from rear; accessory seta 2 μ long. Female genitalia between 12th and 13th sternite, of length 18 μ and of width 24 μ ; coverflap 10 μ wide, with short longitudinal strikes; genital setae 18 μ long.

Male. 160 μ long.

Type locality: greenhouse in Cernusco sul Naviglio (Milano, Italy).

Collected: January 12, 1965, by P. Rota.

Host: *Aphelandra squarrosa* Nees (Acanthaceae).

Relation to host: the mites occur rather on the lower surface of the leaves causing strong rustening on the lower surface and

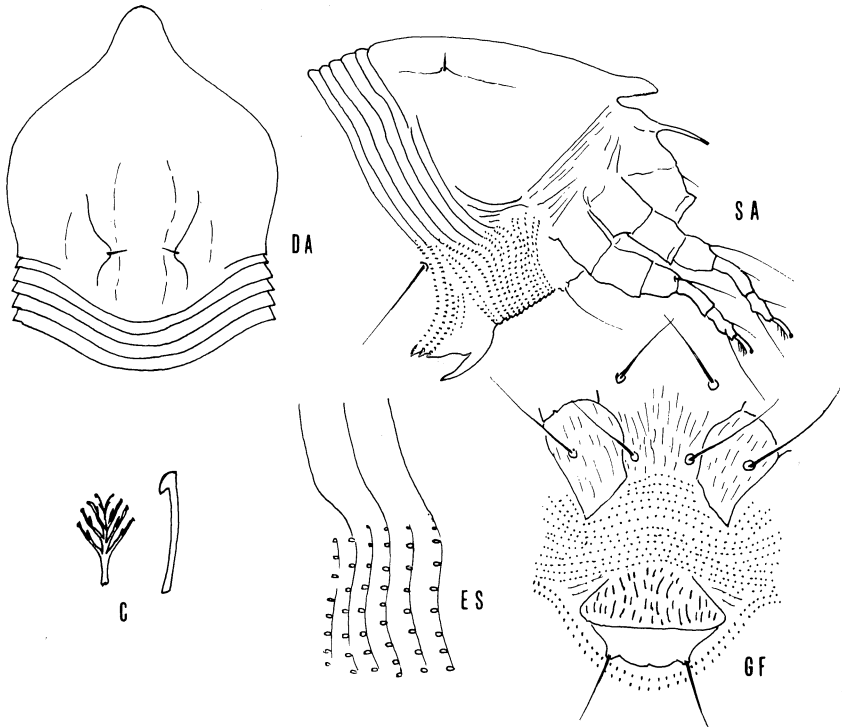


Fig. 1 - *Epitrimerus rotai* n. sp. C = claws; DA = dorsal view of cephalothoracic shield; ES = lateral skin structure; GF = coxae and female genitalia; SA = side view of anterior part of mite.

slight discoloration of upper leaf surface. This mite seems to develop only under higher temperatures, above 18° C.

Remarks: this mite is characterized by 4-rayed featherclaw and the appearance of female genitalia. Epigynum of the species has longitudinal scoring. This is first species of *Epitrimerus* known as living on plants of Acanthaceae family.

Material: type specimen and four paratypes in slides. Types are deposited in the author's collection.

Aculops reticulatus* (Nal.) n. comb. (fig. 2)Phyllocoptes reticulatus* Nalepa 1890 : 64-65, tab. IV, figs. 5, 6.

F e m a l e . 170-215 μ long, 68 μ wide, 47 μ thick, fusiform. Dorsal shield subtriangular, 43 μ long, 58 μ wide, with netlike more or less visible pattern. Shield lobe 9 μ long, blunt, without spines anteriorly. Dorsal tubercles 30 μ apart, distinct, 6 μ long, situated on rear shield

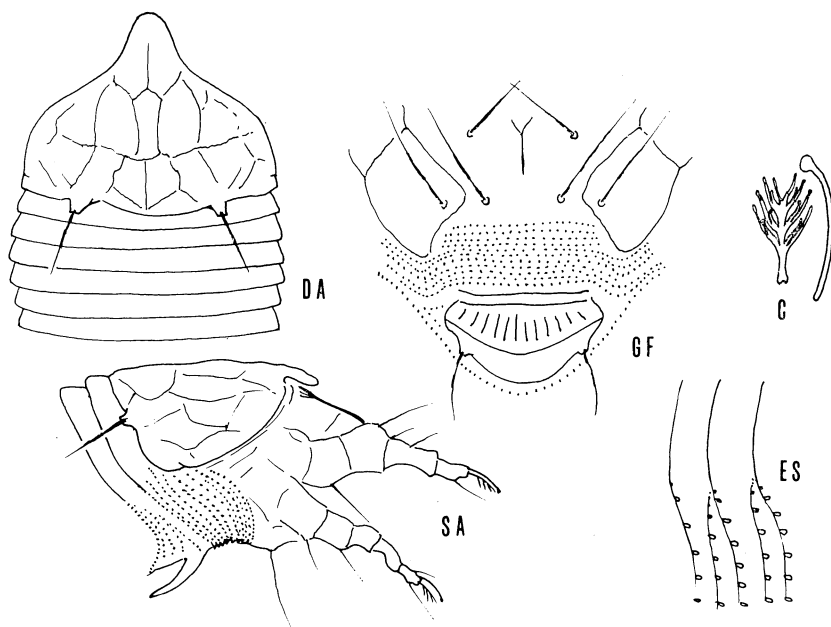


Fig. 2 - *Aculops reticulatus* (Nal.). C = claws; DA = dorsal view of cephalothoracic shield; ES = lateral skin structure; GF = coxae and female genitalia; SA = side view of anterior part of mite.

margin; dorsal setae 17 μ long. Dorsal tubercles and setae forwarded caudad and distinctly diverging. Rostrum 23 μ long, chelicerae 19 μ long, with adapical seta 7 μ long. Forelegs 34 μ long, tibia 10 μ long, with seta 6 μ long; tarsus 7 μ long; featherclaw 4-rayed, claw slightly longer, knobbed. Hindlegs 30 μ long, tarsus 7 μ long. Coxae with longitudinal strikes; sternum 7 μ long, forked anteriorly, sometimes almost not visible. Thanosome of 67 microtuberculate sternites and 23-26 smooth tergites. Microtubercles oval. Setae laterales 33 μ long, on sternite 17th; I ventrals 60 μ long, on sternite 32nd; II ventrals 25 μ long, on sternite 39th. Telosome composed of 6 rings with seta 35 μ long; accessory setae 4 μ long. Female genitalia between 8th and

9th sternite; epigynium 25 μ . wide and 11 μ . long, with longitudinal scoring; genital setae 17 μ . long.

Male. 155-172 μ . long, genitalia 18 μ . wide.

Host: *Populus x euramericana* (Dode).

Collected: Crema (Cremona, Italy) 2.VII.1964; Buttigliera (Torino, Italy), 17.IX.1964, by P. Rota.

Discussion: this species was seen up till now only by NALEPA (1890) from Austria, of *Populus tremula* L. and *P. alba* L. and was not found by FARKAS (1965). Specimens studied differed from those of Nalepa in presence of accessory setae and in having a forked sternum. However, this last character seems to be variable in this species. This species fits to newly established genus *Aculops* (Keifer, 1966).

SUMMARY

Two species of Eriophyid mites are described: *Epitrimerus rotai* n. sp., living on *Aphelandra squarrosa*; *Aculops reticulatus* (Nal.), damaging *Populus* leaves, for the first time recorded in Italy.

RIASSUNTO

Vengono descritte due specie di Eriofidi: *Epitrimerus rotai* n. sp. vivente su *Aphelandra squarrosa*; *Aculops reticulatus* (Nal.), dannoso alle foglie di *Populus*, segnalato per la prima volta in Italia.

LITERATURE

- FARKAS H., 1965 - Die Tierwelt Mitteleuropas. Spinnentiere. *Eriophyidae* (Gallmilben), 3, Leipzig, 55 pp.
 KEIFER H. H., 1966 - Eriophyid studies B-21. *Bur. Ent. Calif. Dep. Agric., spec. pub.*, Nov. 23, 24 pp.
 NALEPA A., 1890 - Zur Systematik der Gallmilben. *Sber. Akad. Wiss. Wien, Mat.-naturw. Kl.*, 99, 40-69.