

Geckobia latasti Megnin, 1878 and *G. loricata* Berlese, 1892 (Acari: Prostigmata: Pterygosomatidae), new mite species to the fauna of Balearic Islands, Spain

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Geckobia latasti Megnin and *G. loricata* Berlese (Prostigmata: Pterygosomatidae) collected on Mallorca, both obtained on *Tarentola mauritanica* (Lacertilia: Gekkonomorpha), are new to the fauna of Balearic Islands and *G. loricata* is a new species for the fauna of Spain.

Keywords: Acari, Prostigmata, Pterygosomatidae, *Geckobia latasti*, *G. loricata*, Balearic Islands, Mallorca, faunistic.

Geckobia latasti MEGNIN, 1878 I *G. loricata* BERLESE, 1892, NOUS ÀCARS PER A LA FAUNA DE LES ILLES BALEARS, ESPANYA. *Geckobia latasti* Megnin i *G. loricata* Berlese (Prostigmata: Pterygosomatidae) col·lectada a Mallorca, ambdós recol·lectades sobre *Tarentola mauritanica* (Lacertilia, Gekkomorpha), són noves per a la fauna d'Illes Balears i *G. loricata* són per la fauna d'Espanya.

Paraules clau: Acari, Prostigmata, Pterygosomatidae, *Geckobia latasti*, *G. loricata*, Illes Balears, Mallorca, faunística.

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Introduction

In the family Pterygosomatidae the genus *Geckobia* Megnin, 1878 is the largest and restricted only to the geckons; hitherto are known about 64 species (Bochkov, Mironov, 2000). From Europe are known only *Geckobia latasti* Megnin and *G. loricata* Berlese. Distribution of *G. latasti* Megnin and *G. loricata* Berlese is poorly known. *G. latasti* was known from Algeria, Morocco, Italy, Spain (Sevilla) and Portugal (Lisbon); *G. loricata* was known from

Morocco, Portugal (Lisbon) and France (Riviera) (Megnin, 1878; Hirst, 1917; Girot, 1969). Now, both mite species were collected from Balearic Islands (Mallorca). The only host for them is *Tarentola mauritanica* (Linnaeus, 1758). From Spain were known until now three species: *G. latasti* from continental Spain and *G. canariensis* Zapatero-Ramos *et al.*, 1989 and *G. tinerfensis* Zapatero-Ramos *et al.*, 1989 both from Canary Islands (Zapatero-Ramos *et al.*, 1989). *G. loricata* is new species to the fauna of Spain.

***Geckobia latasti* Megnin**

Material: 17 ♀♀, 1 deutonymph, 4 larvae, 27.05.2002, Can Picafort; 3 ♀♀, 28.05.2002, Cala de Sant Vincent; all from three specimens of *Tarentola mauritanica*, 2 ♀♀ from tail, the rest from fingers; leg. R. Haitlinger.

It is the common species on this gecko on Mallorca. Is interesting that this mite was obtained also from the tail. New for the fauna of Balearic Islands.

***Geckobia loricata* Berlese**

Material: 5 ♀♀, 1 larva, 27.05.2002, Can Picafort; from two specimens of *T. mauritanica*; 1 ♀ from tail, the rest from fingers; leg. R. Haitlinger.

Probably more rare than *G. latastei*. Both mite species were noted together on the same host specimens.

The main host *T. mauritanica* occurs in Europe in continental Spain, Portugal, South France, Corsica, Sardinia, Sicily, Italy, Malta and some islands of Greece. Probably these mite species are present at least in the part of above-mentioned places.

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