

LISTROPHORUS MEDITERRANEUS SPEC. NOV. (ACARINA:
LISTROPHORIDAE) FROM MEDITERRANEAN RODENTS

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SUMMARY

A new species of *Listrophorus* (*L. mediterraneus*) collected from *Clethrionomys glareolus* in Spain, Belgium and Holland, and from *Eliomys quercinus* in Italy, is described.

RESUMEN

Se describe una nueva especie de *Listrophorus* (*L. mediterraneus*) recogida sobre *Clethrionomys glareolus* en España, Bélgica y Holanda, y sobre *Eliomys quercinus* en Italia, y se compara con las especies próximas: *L. leuckarti* Pagenstecher y *L. brevipes* Dubinina.

We describe hereunder a new species of *Listrophorus* (*L. mediterraneus*) collected from various rodents in Western Europe, mainly the Mediterranean area.

This species forms with *Listrophorus leuckarti* Pagenstecher and *L. brevipes* Dubinina, a small group which is characterized

in the female by the presence of numerous scales covering completely or nearly completely the opisthosoma. The male is distinguished by the foliate aspect of the δ 5 setae which ends in a single thin point.

This new species is distinguished from *L. leuckarti*, mainly in the female, by the presence of scales in the middle part of the opisthonotum and by the short and rounded shape of most of these scales. In the male, the posterior legs are relatively shorter than in *L. leuckarti* and there are numerous rounded scales in the antero-lateral parts of the hysteronotum.

L. mediterraneus is distinguished from *L. brevipes* Dubinina, in the female, by the smaller size and the rounded aspect of the opisthosomal scales, the distinctly smaller number of transverse dark bands on the postscapular shields (12-13 instead of 14-15) and the smaller length of the opisthosoma. The male is very close to that of *L. brevipes*, but the postscapular shields are relatively smaller than in that species and the dorsal striations on the hysteronotum are sinuous or scaly.

Listrophorus mediterraneus spec. nov.

Female (fig.): Holotype 453 μ long and 123 μ wide (in lateral view). In two paratypes from the typical host these measurements are 465 \times 120 μ (in ventral view) and 420 \times 123 μ (in lateral view). In two paratypes from *Eliomys quercinus*, from Italy, these measurements are 454 \times 119 μ and 440 \times 122 μ (in lateral view). Lengths of prescapular shield 99 μ , of postscapular shield (along the internal border) 63 μ , of opisthosoma 162 μ , of legs IV 63 μ , (4 apical segments, ambulacrum not included). The postscapular shields bear 12-13 dark transverse bands (counted along a longitudinal line passing slightly exterior to setae *sc i* (see Fain and Hyland, 1974). Opisthosoma completely covered with very small and short scales; those of the ventral surface are generally triangular while those of lateral and dorsal surface are always rounded. The rounded scales extend anteriorly and laterally until the legs II. All the hysterosomal setae are very short and thin. Posterior legs short. Tarsi III-IV with a long and very thin apical seta 45 μ long.

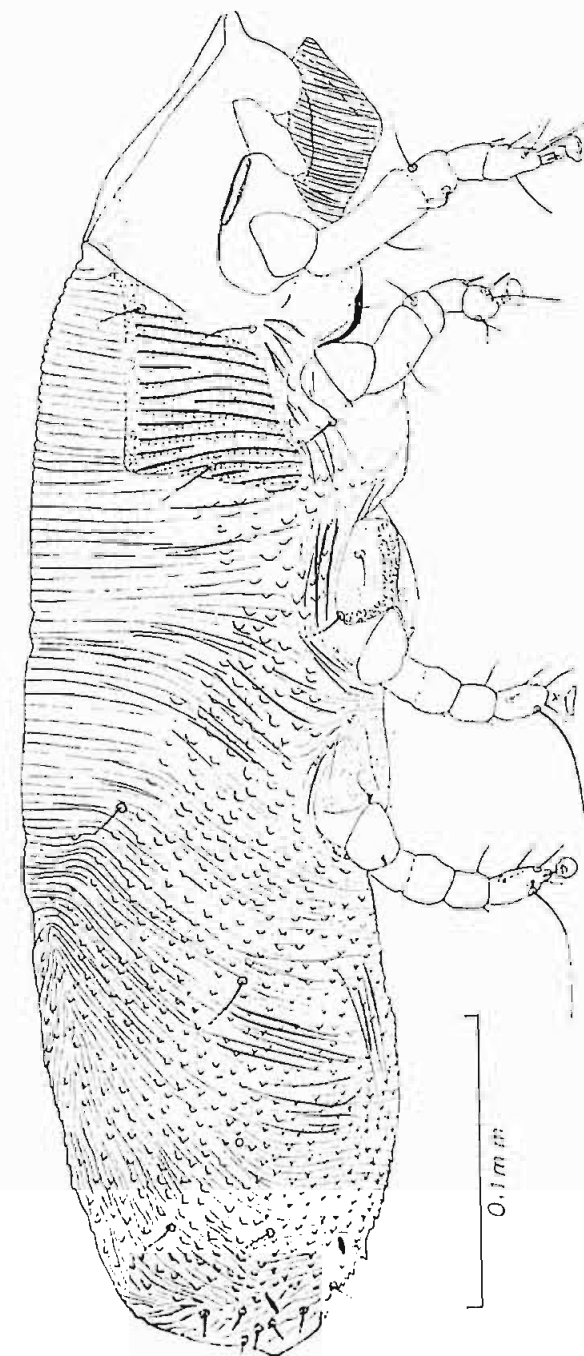


Fig. 1.—*Listrophorus mediterraneus* sp. n. Female in lateral view

Male: Allotype 372 μ long and 118 μ wide (in lateral view). Lengths of prescapular shield 80 μ , of postscapular shield 51 μ , of opisthosoma 96 μ , of legs IV (4 terminal segments) 81 μ , of lateral hysterosomal shields 123 μ . Maximum width of these hysterosomal shields 24 μ . Postscapular shield with 9-11 dark bands. Posterior extremity incised, forming two small lobes. The d 5 setae are foliate as in *L. leuckarti*. Opisthosoma without true scales, but the dorsal striations between the two hysterosomal shields are slightly sinuous or scaly. Rounded scales are present laterally between legs II and IV. Penis as in *L. leuckarti*.

Hosts and locality

1. *Clethrionomys glareolus*, in Spain, from Setcases, Girona, 20-IX-78 (Holotype and 9 female paratypes, allotype and 10 male paratypes, nymphs), and from Montseny, 25-XI-77 (5 females and 3 males paratypes) (Coll. M. Portús). In Belgium, from Heer-Agimont, September 1967 (4 females and 2 males paratypes) (Coll. A. Fain). In Belgium these mites were mixed with *L. leuckarti*.
2. *Eliomys quercinus*, from Pescasseroli, Italy, 20-X-72 (4 female and 4 male paratypes) (Coll. F. Lukoschus).
3. We attribute to this species several male specimens found on *Clethrionomys glareolus*, in Hamert and Hatert, Holland. (Coll. F. Lukoschus, August, 1965).

Holotype in the Institut des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique. Bruxelles.

Allotype in the Institut de Médecine Tropicale. Antwerpen.

Paratypes in the authors' collections.

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