

## A new record for the Turkish Fauna: *Tycherobius stramenticola* Bolland (Acari, Actinedida, Camerobiidae)\*

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**Abstract:** In this study, the characters and distribution of *Tycherobius stramenticola* Bolland, 1986 which is a new record for the Turkish fauna are given.

**Key Words:** *Tycherobius stramenticola*, Acari, Taxonomy, New record, Turkey.

### Türkiye Faunası için yeni bir kayıt: *Tycherobius stramenticola* Bolland (Acari, Actinedida, Camerobiidae)

**Özet:** Bu çalışmada, Türkiye faunası için yeni olan *T. stramenticola* Bolland, 1986'nın tanıttıcı özellikleri ve dağılımı verilmiştir.

**Anahtar Sözcükler:** *Tycherobius stramenticola*, Acari, Taksonomi, yeni kayıt, Türkiye.

#### Introduction

The camerobiid mites inhabiting in grass, straw, litter, moss and soil are predators; preying on plant-associated mites, such as gall, false spider and tydeid mites and scale insects (1-6). Their economic important are rather scarce and they regulate number of phytophagous mites, scale insect. Until now, 5 genera and 53 species were recognized from all the zoogeographical regions (7). There are no reports of this family in Turkey (8).

This paper presents new distribution, host records and adds a species to the Acari fauna of Turkey.

#### Material and Method

The mites in soil, litter and moss samples taken from Artvin province were extracted in Berlese's funnel. Then they fixed and preserved in 75 % ethanol. The terminology and chaetotaxy are used by Kethley (9). All measurements are given in  $\mu\text{m}$ . Examined materials are deposited at the Zoological Museum of Atatürk University, Erzurum.

#### Results

Family: CAMEROBIIDAE Southcott, 1957

Genus: *Tycherobius* Bolland, 1986

Type species: *Neophyllobius lombardini* Summers and Schlinger, 1955

Dorsum with nine pairs of I setae. Five pairs of central setae. Trochanters I-IV each with one seta. Tibiae with 9-8-7-7 setae, scattered all over the segment, and a distal solenidion. Tarsi I and II each with a subbasal solenidion. Tarsi III and IV only with one median seta. Palptibiae with three setae and a sword-like seta.

*Tycherobius stramenticola* Bolland, 1986

(Fig. 1 A-H)

Female

Body length 346 (322-364), width 215 (210-224). Length of legs 672 (630-700), 523 (504,532), 593 (560-630), 696 (672-714). Five pairs of central seta:  $c_1=266$ ,  $d_1=182$ ,  $e_1=84$ ,  $f_1=85$  and  $h_1=47$ . Nine pairs of

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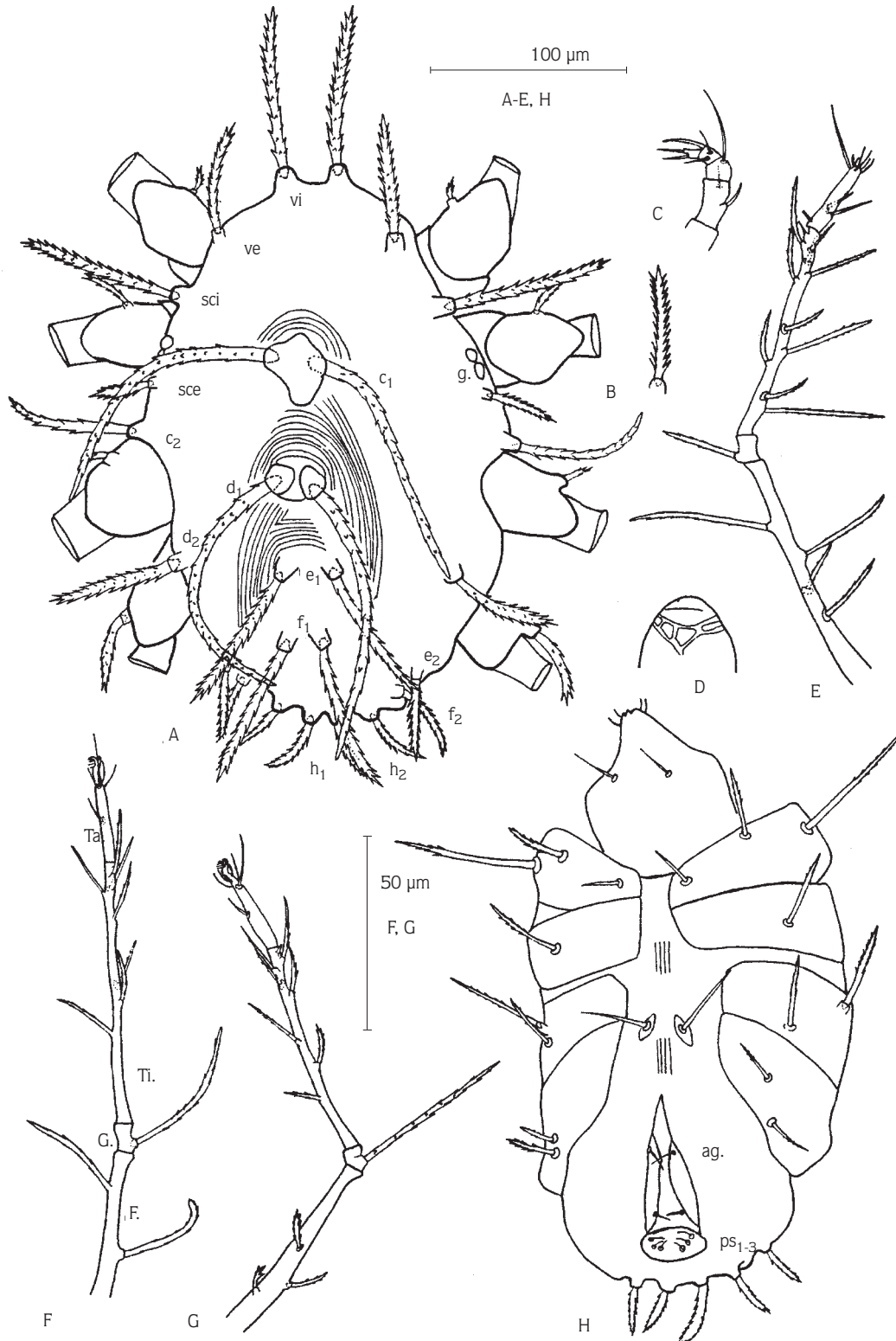


Figure 1. *Tycherobius stramenticola*: Female; A) Dorsal view of idiosoma, B) seta  $c_2$ , C) Pedipalp, D) Dorsal view of gnathosoma, E) Leg I, F) Leg IV, G) Leg III, H) Ventral view of idiosoma. Abbreviations: (ag.) aggenital seta; (g.) eye; (ps.) postanal seta; (F.) femora; (G.) genua; (Ti.) Tibia; (Ta.) Tarsus; (vi) internal vertical seta; (ve) external vertical seta; (sci) internal scapular seta; (sce) external scapular seta; c, d, e, f and h setae corresponding to each transverse region on hysterosoma.

*l setae*: vi=85, ve=64, sci=85, sce=34, c2=74, d<sub>2</sub>=57, e<sub>2</sub>=47, f<sub>2</sub>=40 and h<sub>2</sub>=47. Intersetal distances: vi-ve; ve-sci, sci-sce=51,47, 68 respectively. Leg setation: coxae 3-1-2-1, trochanters 1-1-1-1, femora 4-3-3-2, genua 1-1-1-1, tibiae 9(+1)-8(+1)-7(+1)-7(+1), tarsi 8(+1)-7(+1)-6-6.

Pedipalp setation: trochanter 0, femur 2, genu 1, tibia 3+1 sword-like seta, tarsus 1+1 eupathidium. Dorsum of idiosoma is a band of coarse striae as in fig. 1 A.

Venter is as in fig.1 H.

Male

Unknown.

*T. stramenticola* is a new record for the Turkish fauna.

**Distribution:** Israel (2).

Examined Material: Artvin, c. 5 km E of Borçka, 300

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m, 26.10.1993, soil and grass in mixed forest, c. 5 km N of Borçka, 220 m, 27.10.1993, soil and grass in a garden with *Corylus* sp., 1 ; c. 25 km S of Şavrat, 40 m, 15.09.1993 moss on stone, 1 ; c. 25 km S of Şavrat, 540 m, 15.09.1993, litter and soil under *Juniperus* sp.

## Discussion

Type species has been found in pine litter in Israel (2). Our specimens have been collected from litter, soil and moss. The size of body of *T. stramenticola* is 250/225 (2) and 346 (322-364)/215 (210-224), the type specimen and the Turkish material respectively. Our specimens are bigger than the type specimen, both the body size and the length of leg. These differences in the dimension are considered in the variation limits. Turkish material resembles the type specimen in the other features.