Two new species of larval *Erythraeus* (*Erythraeus*) (Acari: Prostigmata: Erythraeidae) from Sicily, Italy

RYSZARD HAITLINGER
Institute of Biology, Department of Invertebrate Systematics and Ecology, Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences, 51 631 Wroclaw, Kożuchowska 5B, Poland (e-mail: ryszard.haitlinger@up.wroc.pl)

Abstract

*Erythraeus* (*Erythraeus*) *sicilicus* sp. nov., and *E.* (*E.*) *etnaensis* sp. nov. are described and illustrated from larvae collected from herbaceous plants in Sicily, Italy.

Key words: Acari, Prostigmata, Erythraeidae, *Erythraeus*, new species, Sicily, larva.

Introduction

38 species of the subgenus *Erythraeus* (*Erythraeus*), based on larvae, hitherto have been described; among them 18 species were described from Europe (Khanjani et al., 2007; Beron, 2008; Haitlinger, 2009a, b, 2010; Saboori & Cobanoglu, 2010). Only two species of *Erythraeus* based on larvae, *E.* (*E.*) *kuyperi* (Oudemans, 1910) and *E.* (*E.*) *malwinae* Haitlinger, 1995, are recorded from Italy (Haitlinger, 2007; Beron, 2008). In this paper *Erythraeus* (*Erythraeus*) *sicilicus* sp. nov. and *E.* (*E.*) *etnaensis* sp. nov. are described.

Material and methods

Specimens were preserved in ethanol and mounted in Berlese’s medium. The terminology and abbreviations follows Southcott (1992) and Haitlinger (2006); all measurements are given in micrometers (μm). The holotypes are deposited at the Museum of Natural History, Wroclaw University, Poland; paratypes are in the author’s collection.

Family Erythraeidae Robineau-Desvoidy, 1828

*Erythraeus* (*Erythraeus*) *sicilicus* sp. nov. (Figs. 1–11)


Description. Idiosoma longer than wide with 38 dorsal setae; all setae weakly barbed. Both sides of scutum with one pair of eyes (Fig. 1). Scutum wider than long with two pairs of scutalae; AL longer than PL; both fully barbed. Anterior pair of sensillae (AM) short, ?nude. Posterior pair of nude sensillae (S) over twice longer than AM. Cuticular lines at bases of S present (Fig. 3).

Ventral surface of idiosoma with four sternalae; sternalae 1a longer than sternalae 3a. 16 setae behind coxae III, all slightly barbed. Coxalae 1b distinctly longer than coxalae 2b and 3b; coxalae 3b> coxalae 2b (Fig. 2). NDV = 54.