

Article

A new species of the genus *Adamystis* (Acari: Anystina: Adamystidae) from western Iran

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Abstract

A new mite species, *Adamystis alvandicus* **sp. nov.**, is described and illustrated from female specimens collected from soil under Spiny Hawthorn trees, *Crataegus aronia* (L.) (Rosaceae), near Alvand Mountain in Hamedan province, Iran. The new species is distinguished by lacking lens like structures, having one pair of eyes, a smooth dorsal shield and coxae I–IV 2-3-3-2. All other *Adamystis* have three setae on coxisternae IV.

Key words: Mite, predator, adamystid, Rosaceae, Alvand, Hamedan, Iran

Introduction

Adamystid mites are reddish, medium-sized, free-living predators (Krantz & Walter 2009). Cunliffe (1957) proposed the genus *Adamystis* and subfamily Adamystinae in the family Anystidae, yet suspected that it may belong to another new family. This subfamily was subsequently recognized as a new family, Adamystidae, by Coineau (1974b), accommodating *Adamystis* Cunliffe, 1957 and *Saxidromus* Coineau, 1974a in the subfamilies Adamystinae and Saxidrominae, respectively. Coineau *et al.* (2006) added two genera, *Bovidromus* and *Rhinodromus*, to the subfamily Saxidrominae. *Adamystis* is a large genus in the family Adamystidae with 15 species recorded from all over the world, namely: *Adamystis donnae* Cunliffe, 1957; *A. sarae* Hunter & Crossley, 1968; *A. fonsi* Coineau, 1974; *A. doumengei* Coineau, 1974; *A. coineaui* Rafalski, 1982; *A. beckyanneae* McDaniel & Bolen, 1983; *A. sartorum* Barilo, 1987; *A. monomaculata* Ueckermann, 1989; *A. buchelis* Ueckermann, 1989; *A. nudis* Ueckermann, 1989; *A. oculusis* Ueckermann, 1989; *A. trimaculata* Ueckermann, 1989; *A. yvesi* Ueckermann, 1989; *A. thailandensis* Fuangarworn & Lekprayoon, 2010; and *A. iranoturanianensis* Beyzavi, Ueckermann & Ostovan, 2012. In this paper *A. alvandicus* **sp. nov.** collected from soil under *Crataegus aronia* (L.) (Rosaceae) bushes, near Alvand Mountain in Hamedan province, Iran is described and illustrated. Along with the record of Beyzavi *et al.* (2012), this is the first record of this family and genus from Iran.

Material and methods

Mites were mounted in Hoyer's medium directly and examined under a 1000X magnification of an Olympus BX51 phase contrast microscope. All drawings were made using a camera Lucida. Body