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TEINOCHEYLUS
LONGISSIMUS N. G., N. SP.
A NEW FUR-MITE FROM
PECTINATOR SPEKEI
(CHEYLETIDAE : TROMBIDIFORMES)

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DIRECTION
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TEINOCHEYLUS LONGISSIMUS N. G., N. SP.
A NEW FUR-MITE FROM *PECTINATOR SPEKEI*
(CHEYLETIDAE : TOMBIDIFORMES)

BY

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The mite that is described here has been found on the head of *Pectinator spekei*, from North Somaliland. The infected animal belongs to the collection of the British Museum.

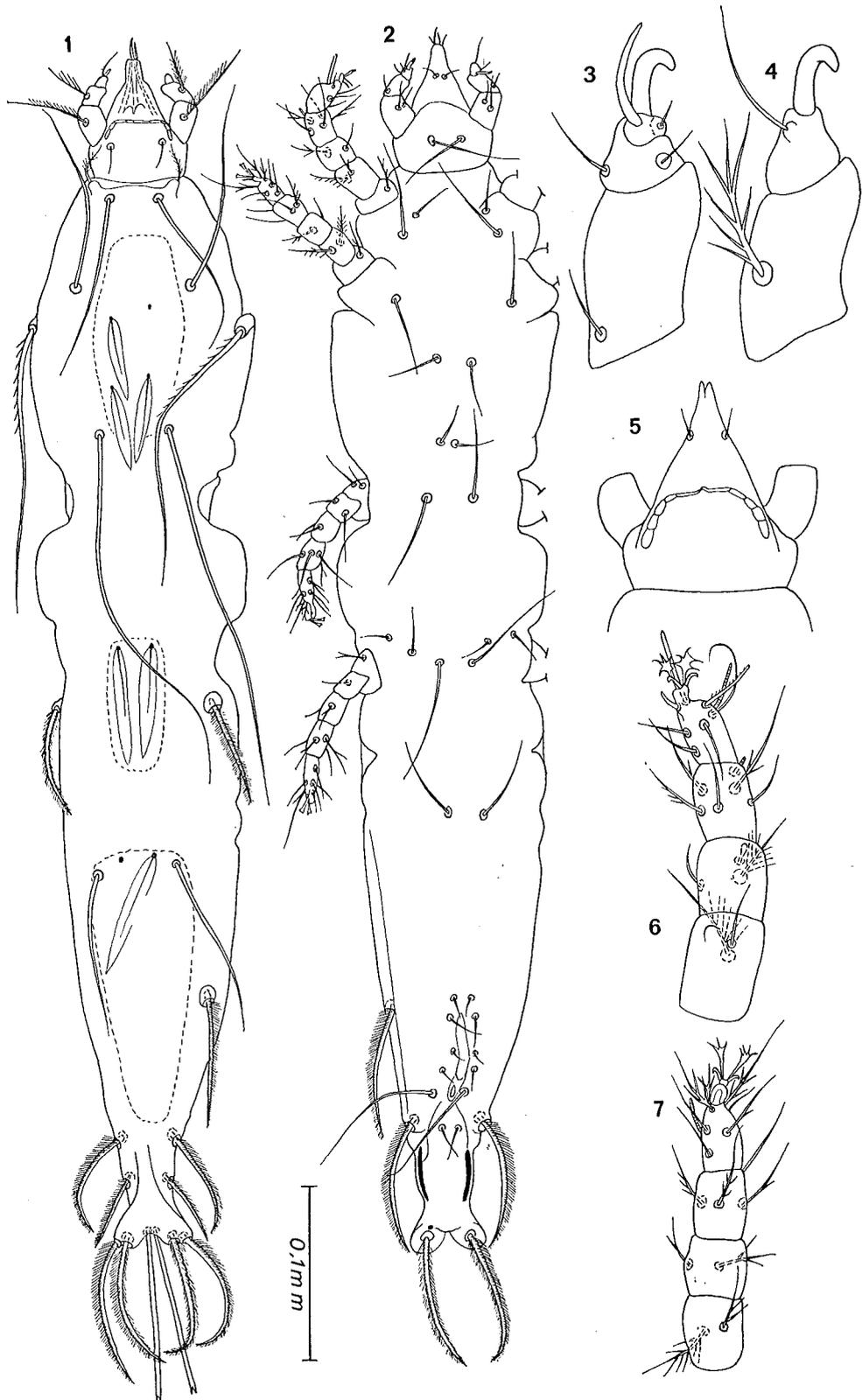
Genus **Teinocheylus** gen. nov.

Definition : Based on the female. Body very long and very narrow, syringophilidlike. Gnathosoma rather small with a long, triangular prolongation projecting anteriorly beyond the palps. Palps formed of 4 free segments; trochanter-femur and genu longer than wide; the tibia bears a strong terminal and non-toothed claw; the tarsus is very small, rounded and bilobate bearing two hairs: an outer sickle-like and not barbed and an inner very small and slightly curved. Dorsal surface of gnathosoma with a segmented cheliceral peritreme. Pretarsi I to III each with normal paired claws and a rayed empodium. On legs IV only the rayed empodium has been observed. Idiosoma with dorsally three poorly sclerotized median shields bearing dorsally 2 pairs, one pair and one pair of leaflike transparent hairs respectively. Posterior extremity abruptly widened near the tip and bearing 6 pairs of long bipectinate hairs. Vulva not far from the posterior extremity of the body. Anus not clearly observed but it is possible that it opens in the posterior part of the vulvar slit.

Type of the genus : *Teinocheylus longissimus* sp. n.

Teinocheylus longissimus spec. nov.

FEMALE (holotype) : Length of the body including gnathosoma but not the palps 690 μ , maximum width 130 μ . In a paratype 590 $\mu \times$ 105 μ . Gnathosoma 75 μ long. Dorsally the cuticle is transversely striated except in three median areas longer than wide, where the striation is longitudinal and poorly distinct. These three modified areas, or shields, bear foliate hairs: two pairs on the anterior shield, and one pair on each of the two posterior shields. The dorsum bears also 5 long hairs, some are barbed. Opisthosoma bearing laterally 7 pairs of slightly curved hairs bearing two rows of long barbs (bipectinate), the first pair being situated close to the legs IV, the 6 other pairs are situated in the posterior third of the opisthosoma. Posterior extremity with two strong, paramedian slightly spindleshaped, hairs. Ventrally: coxae very



FIGS. 1-7. — *Teinocheylus longissimus* sp. n. Female in dorsal (fig. 1) and ventral (fig. 2) view. Genu, tibia and tarsus I ventrally (fig. 3) and dorsally (fig. 4.) Gnathosoma dorsally (fig. 5). Legs I (fig. 6) and II (fig. 7).

poorly indicated. Vulva situated in posterior third of opisthosoma. Gnathosoma prolonged anteriorly, forming a snout. Palps shorter than this snout-like prolongation. Tibial claw thick, curved. Legs I thicker than the other legs which are rather narrow. Claws of leg I and II slightly larger than those of leg III.

NYPH II : Length 495 μ , maximum width 93 μ . This nymph differs from the female by the following characters : 1) Only the anterior dorsal shield is present ; 2) There are no leaf-like hairs on the dorsum ; 3) The snout-like prolongation of the gnathosoma is relatively longer ; 4) There is no claw on the palp tibia ; 5) A small anus is present.

SYSTEMATIC POSITION OF THE GENUS *Teinocheylus* :

This genus is related to the tribe Cheletosomatini VOLGIN. However, it is clearly distinguished from the other genera of this tribe by the following characters : Palps with the trochanter and femur fused, absence of comb-like seta on palp tarsus, body very strongly elongate, dorsum with foliate-transparent hairs.

We propose therefore to erect a new tribe for this genus, with the name Teinocheylini tr. nov.

Host and locality :

The mites were attached on the hairs of the head, between the ears, of *Pectinator spekei*, from two different localities : 1) North Somaliland. This animal is in the collection of the British Museum n° 5.11.4.22.23. (Holotype and 1 paratypes females, 2 nymphs paratypes) ; 2) Berbera, Somaliland. Animal in British Museum n° 88.6.20.1.2. (1 female and 1 nymph paratypes).

Type in the British Museum.

SUMMARY

The author describe *Teinocheylus longissimus* n. g. and n. sp. (Cheyletidae) from a rodent *Pectinator spekei*, from Somaliland. A new tribe Teynocheylini is erected to receive this genus.

RÉSUMÉ

L'auteur décrit *Teinocheylus longissimus* n. g. et n. sp. (Cheyletidae), sur un rongeur *Pectinator spekei*, de Somalie. Une nouvelle tribu Teinocheylini est créée pour contenir ce nouveau genre.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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