New Records of Phytoseiid Mites (Acarina: Phytoseiidae) from Cyprus

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ABSTRACT

Seven species of Phytoseiid mites are recorded for the first time from various plants in Cy­
prus: Amblyseius harkeri (Hughes), Euseius scutalis (Athias-Henriot), Euseius finlandicus
(Oudemans), Typhlodromus leptodactylus Wainstein, Typhlodromus exhilaratus Ragusa,
Typhlodromus phialatus Athias-Henriot, Typhlodromus carmonae Chant and Toshida-
Shaul.

Introduction

Phytoseiid mites are important predators of mite and insect pests, in various ecosystems. Many phytoseiids were colonized in new habi­
tats and few replace the conventional use of synthetic insecticides, mainly in greenhouses. Hence information on the discovery of new geo­
graphical strains may be of importance for IPM and classic biological control projects, particu­
larly against mite pests.

Only three phytoseiid species have been recorded (Georghiou 1977) from Cyprus prior
to the present survey. These species were col­
lected from different parts of the island; namely, Amblyseius asians (Evans), Typhlo­
dromus ilia Oudemans and Amblydromella rhenana (Oudemans).

Methods

This paper presents data on seven species of phyto­
seiid mites which were collected during a survey in May 1991. The mites were dropped on a black surface by shaking of the foliage, and collected
with an aspirator device. The specimens were
stored in 96% ethyl-alcohol, cleared with Nesbitt
and mounted in Hoyers solution.

Results and Discussion

Amblyseius harkeri Hughes, 1948.
MATERIAL EXAMINED: Astromeridis, 1,V.91, 4 ♀♂, 1♂, on grass (Gramineae).
Euseius scutalis (Athias-Henriot), 1958.
MATERIAL EXAMINED: Nicosia, 14 ♀♂, 4♂♂ ♀♀ on Pittosporum spp. 3 ♀♀ ♀ on citrus.
Euseius finlandicus (Oudemans), 1915.
MATERIAL EXAMINED: Troodos Mt., 3 ♀♂ ♀ on Cupressus sempervirens.
Typhlodromus leptodactylus (Wainstein), 1961.
MATERIAL EXAMINED: Nicosia (Atalasa Station), 3 ♀♂ ♀ on Juglans regia; Paphos forest 2♀♂, on
Platanus sp.
Typhlodromus exhilaratus (Ragusa), 1977.
MATERIAL EXAMINED: Elioudhix-Tisiki, Adelphi forest, Troodos Mt. 4 ♀♂, 1♂, on Myrtus communis. This species was recorded in Italy on Rosmarinus officinalis on Laurus nobilis; and on Pinus halepensis, in Israel.
MATERIAL EXAMINED: Elioudrix-Tisiki, Adelphi forest, 1♀, on Pinus pinea.
Typhlodromus carmonae Chant and Yoshida-
Shaul, 1983.
MATERIAL EXAMINED: Atalasa Station 2♀♀ on Cupressus sempervirens.

During this survey I did not find any of the three species recorded by Georgiou (1977). It is interesting to note that none of the species
recorded here from Cyprus are endemic. T. car-
monae was found prior to the present survey in Portugal (Chant & Yoshida, 1983) and Greece (Papadoulis and Emmanuel 1993), whereas others are widely distributed in various regions. The fact that all the seven species collected are new to the island may indicate that a thorough survey of this mite family will reveal other species of this important group of predators.

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References


KEY WORDS: Cyprus, predacious mites, Phytoseiidae.

Νέες Αναφορές Ακάρεων Phytoseiidae από την Κύπρο

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ΠΕΡΙΛΗΨΗ
Επτά είδη ακάρεων Phytoseiidae καταγράφηκαν για πρώτη φορά σε διάφορα φυτά στην Κύπρο: Amblyseins barkeri (Hughes), Euseius scutalis (Athias-Henriot), Euseius finlandicus (Oudemans), Typhlodromus leptodactylus Wainstein, Typhlodromus exhilaratus Ragusa, Typhlodromus phialatus Athias-Henriot, Typhlodromus carmonae Chant and Yoshida-Shaul.