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## Article

# Descriptions of two new species of eriophyoid mites (Acari, Eriophyoidea) from New Alluvial Zone, West Bengal, India

Shamik Dey<sup>1</sup>  and Pranab Debnath<sup>2\*</sup> 

1. School of Agricultural Sciences, JIS University, Kolkata, India; E-mail: [deyshamik93@gmail.com](mailto:deyshamik93@gmail.com)

2. Department of Agricultural Entomology, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Nadia, 741252, West Bengal, India;  
E-mail: [pranab.bckv@gmail.com](mailto:pranab.bckv@gmail.com)

\* Corresponding author

### ABSTRACT

Two new species of eriophyoid mites, *Shevtchenkella holoptele* **sp. nov.** from *Holoptelea integrifolia* (Roxb.) (Ulmaceae) and *Diptilomiopus cordifoliae* **sp. nov.** from *Haldina cordifolia* (Roxb.) (Rubiaceae) were described and illustrated from New Alluvial Zone of West Bengal, India. The two new mite species were found to be vagrant on under surface of the leaves without causing visible damage symptoms.

**KEYWORDS:** Diptilomiopidae, *Diptilomiopus*, Eriophyidae, *Shevtchenkella*, taxonomy.

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## INTRODUCTION

Considering the Indian eriophyoid fauna, so far about 600 eriophyoid species in 111 genera and three families (Phytoptidae, Eriophyidae and Diptilomiopidae) have been recorded (Gupta 2012; Chakrabarti *et al.* 2017; Sarkar 2022). Maximum number has been found from West Bengal, an estimated 103 species from 48 genera in two families (Debnath and Karmakar 2016; Chakrabarti *et al.* 2019; Sarkar 2022). Survey was conducted for exploration of eriophyoid mite species associated with their respective host plants during 2018 in new alluvial zone, West Bengal which resulted in finding of two new species from two separate host plants. *Shevtchenkella holoptele* **sp. nov.** was the sixth species in this genus reported from West Bengal. It was found to be vagrant under surface of the leaves of *Holoptelea integrifolia* (Roxb.). The genus *Shevtchenkella* can be characterized by the presence of a strong frontal lobe, tubercles of the scapular seate on posterior to shield margin, backward directed scapular setae and first dorsal anuuli not overlapping the next two dorsal annuli, opisthosoma dorsally flattened and with dorsomedial ridge (Chandrapatya and Boczek 2001). The second new species *Diptilomiopus cordifoliae* **sp. nov.** was found on *Haldina cordifolia* (Roxb.) (family Rubiaceae). The mites under the genus *Diptilomiopus* can be identified by their long stylet, dorsal opisthosoma with two shallow longitudinal furrows, divided empodium and absence of scapular setae. In the present text the elaborate taxonomic description of two new eriophyid mites is documented which were collected from new alluvial zone of West Bengal.

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## MATERIAL AND METHODS

Plant shoots were collected in separate polythene bags and mites were picked up by using a sharp wooded needle with the help of a stereomicroscope. Mites were placed into Hoyer's medium (Keifer 1975; Amrine and Manson 1996) for permanent mounting. After completion of mounting process, the slide was kept in the slide warmer for clearing of the slide for 7–10 days at 40–45 °C. The slide mounted mites were studied under a phase contrast microscope (Olympus BX41) and line drawings were prepared by using a camera lucida. The morphological nomenclature follows Lindquist (1996). Measurements were taken according to Amrine and Manson (1996) and de Lillo *et al.* (2010) and given in micrometers ( $\mu\text{m}$ ). The systematic classification follows Amrine *et al.* (2003) and consulting all the published species after 2003. In the description of new species, the holotype female measurement followed by the corresponding range for paratypes were given in parentheses. The slides were labelled with all relevant data and deposited in the National Zoological Collection, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata and one slide with paratypes in the National Pusa Collection, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, India.

## RESULTS

### Family Eriophyidae Nalepa, 1898 Subfamily Phyllocoptinae Nalepa, 1892 Tribe Tegenotini Bagdasarian, 1978

#### *Shevtchenkella holoptele* sp. nov. (Fig. 1)

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:E7463454-8DF8-4AE0-BF5C-48995B4304EF>

#### Description

**Female (n = 10)** – Body fusiform, 168 (129–170), 53 (52–55) wide, 54 (53–55) thick.

**Gnathosoma** – 25 (24–25) projecting downwards, dorsal pedipalp genual seta (*d*) 5 (4–5), chelicerae 12 (11–13).

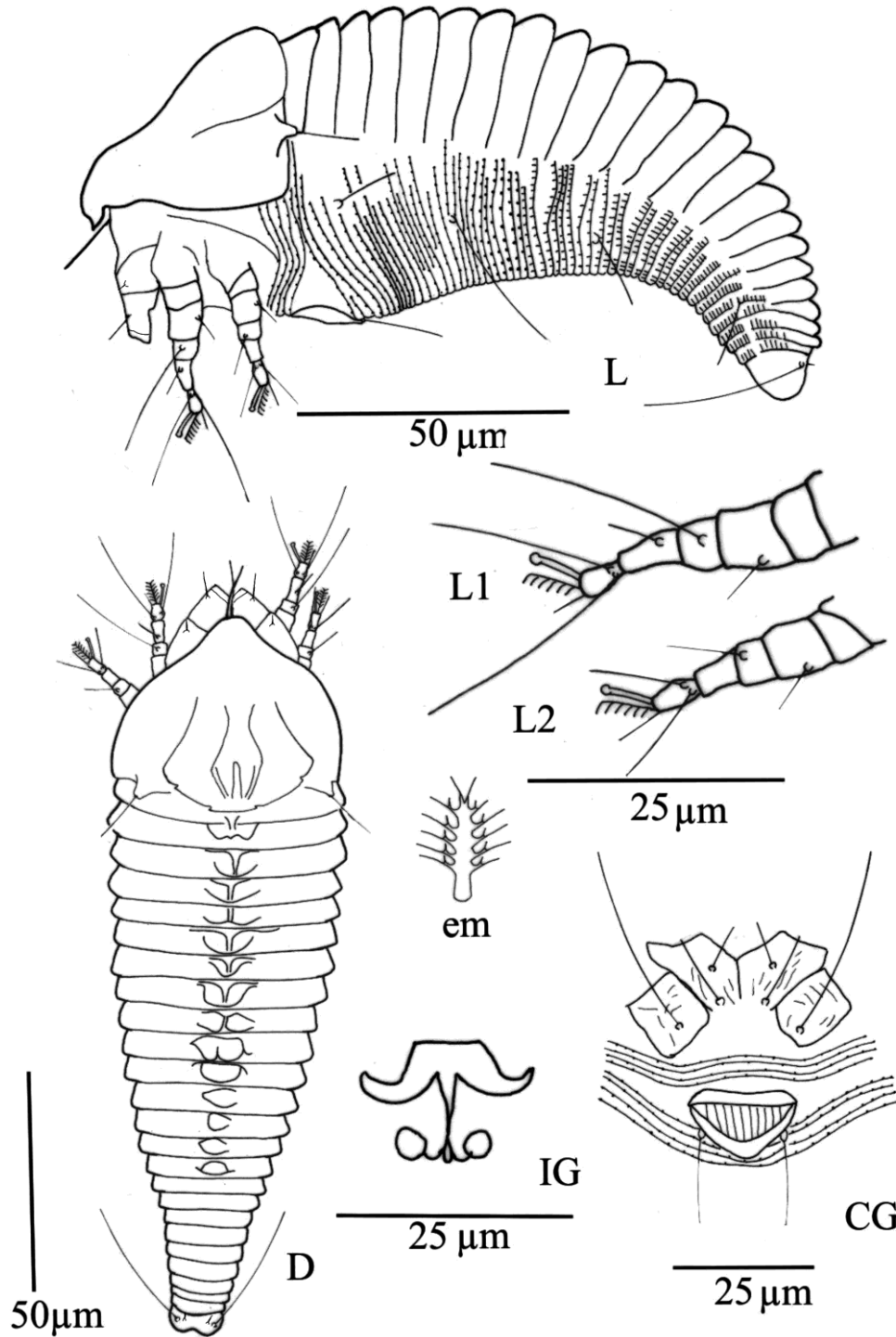
**Prodorsal shield** – 43 (42–44), 50 (49–51) wide, with well-developed frontal lobe, (length of lobe) median line short and forms an inverted ‘U’, two curved admedian lines together form “flower vase” shaped structure one rear third of shield, two submedian lines laterally extend and meet together at the posterior margin of prodorsal shield forms an axe like structure; dorsal tubercles 44 (43–45) apart, scapular setae (*sc*) 12 (11–13), 44 (43–44) apart, directed backwards, divergent.

**Coxigenital region** – Coxal plate with short lines, coxa I 10 (10–11), prosternal apodeme 6 (6–7), anterolateral seta on coxisternum I (*Ib*) 7 (6–8), 10 (9–10) apart, proximal seta on coxisternum I (*Ia*) 12 (12–14), 8 (8–9) apart. Coxa II 12 (12–13), proximal seta on coxisternum II (*2a*) 33 (32–34), 18 (17–19) apart. Coxigenital region with 5 (4–6) semiannuli between coxae and genitalia.

**Legs** – Leg I 24 (23–25), femur 8 (7–9), genu 3 (3–4), tibia 6 (5–6), tarsus 4 (4–6), basiventral femoral seta (*bv*) 5 (4–6), antaxialgenual seta (*l''*) 22 (21–23), paraxial tibial seta (*l'*) 5 (4–6), paraxial fastigial tarsal seta (*ft'*) 18 (17–19), antaxialfastigial tarsal seta (*ft''*) 22 (21–23), paraxial unguinal tarsal seta (*u'*) 3 (3–4), tarsal empodium (*em*) 5 (5–6), 6 rayed, tarsal solenidion ( $\omega$ ) 5 (4–6), knobbed. Leg II 22 (22–23), femur 6 (5–7), genu 3 (3–4), tibia 4 (4–5), tarsus 5 (5–6), basiventral femoral seta (*bv*) 5 (5–7), antaxialgenual seta (*l''*) 7 (6–7), paraxial fastigial tarsal seta (*ft'*) 9 (8–10), antaxialfastigial tarsal seta (*ft''*) 10 (10–12), paraxial unguinal tarsal seta (*u'*) 4 (3–5), tarsal empodium (*em*) 5 (5–6), 6 rayed, tarsal solenidion ( $\omega$ ) 5 (5–6), knobbed.

**Opisthosoma** – With 24 (23–25) smooth dorsal annuli with a median ridge, ventral annuli 62 (60–63), microtuberculate and the microtubercles are bead like. Opisthosomal seta *c*2 11 (11–13) on ventral annulus 10 (8–10), seta *d* 28 (27–29) on ventral annulus 27 (26–27), 28 (26–28) apart, seta *e* 13 (12–14) on ventral annulus 43 (41–43), 32 (31–33) apart, seta *f*12 (11–13) on ventral annulus 58

(57–58), 32 (32–33) apart, *h1* absent; seta *h2* 30 (29–30).



**Figure 1.** *Shevtchenkella holoptele* sp. nov. (female) – D. Dorsal habitus; L. Lateral habitus; L1. Leg I; L2. Leg II. em. empodium; CG. Coxogenital region female; IG. Internal Genitalia.

**External genitalia** – Semicircular, 10 (9–11) long, 18 (17–19) wide, genital coverflap with 10 longitudinal lines, proximal seta on coxisternum III (*3a*) 15 (14–15).

**Internal genitalia** – Transverse apodemes laterally expanded, longitudinal bridge 8 (7–9), spermatheca round shaped.

**Type host plant** – *Holoptelea integrifolia* (Roxb.) (family Ulmaceae).

**Relation to the host plant** – *Shevtchenkella holoptele* **sp. nov.** is a vagrant mite on the lower surface of the leaves without causing any damage symptoms.

**Type locality** – India, West Bengal, Nadia, Gayeshpur (22° 58' N, 88° 29' E) and Chakdah (23° N, 88° E), 14 m above sea level, 4 January 2018, coll. Shamik Dey.

**Type material** – HOLOTYPE, single female (slide number Acar. Lab./BCKV/4158/2018). PARATYPES, 20 slides bearing 26 females (slide number. Acar. Lab./BCKV/4159-4179/2018) with the same data as holotype, were deposited in the Acarology Laboratory, BCKV, Kalyani, Nadia, India.

### Etymology

The species name “*holoptele*” was based on the generic name of its host plant.

**Table 1.** Distinguishing characters between *Shevtchenkella holoptele* **sp. nov.** and *Shevtchenkella baccharis* (Keifer, 1939).

Characters	<i>Shevtchenkella holoptele</i> <b>sp. nov.</b>	<i>Shevtchenkella baccharis</i> (Keifer, 1939)	
		Original description	Fletchmann <i>et al.</i> (2015)
Prodorsal shield length	43 (42–44)	46	60–66
Prodorsal shield width	50 (49–51)	60	70–73
Scapular seta length	12 (11–13)	4.5	5–6
Length of Leg I	24 (23–25)	28–31	29
Length of basiventral femoral	5 (4–6)	-	8–11
Length of genu	3	-	5–6
Number of rays in empodium	5	-	4
Tarsal solenidion length	5 (4–6)	6.5	4–5
Length of Leg II	22 (22–23)	28	28–33
Length of femur	6 (5–7)	-	9–10
Length of basiventral femoral	5 (5–7)	-	9–11
Length of genu	3	-	5–6
Length of antaxialgenua seta	7 (6–7)	4.5	3–5
Length of tibia	4 (4–5)	6.5	6–8
Length of Paraxial fastigial	9 (8–10)	-	4–5
Length of antaxial fastigial	10 (10–12)	-	18–19
Number of rays in empodium	5	-	4
Number of dorsal annulus	24 (23–25)	18–19	17–19
Microtubercles in tergite	Absent	-	Present
Number of ventral annulus	62 (60–63)	-	54–63
Length of <i>c</i> 2 and on annulus	11 (11–13) on annulus 10	31 on annulus 6	25–35 on first or second annulus behind genitalia rear margin
Length of <i>d</i> and on annulus	28 (27–29) on annulus 27	48 on annulus 18	40–48 on annulus 14
Length of <i>e</i> and on annulus	13 (12–14) on annulus 43	17 on annulus 29	10–11 on annulus 29–33
Length of <i>f</i> and on annulus	12 on annulus 58	24 on annulus 5 <sup>th</sup> form rear	22–25, 19–21 apart, on annulus 49–58 or 4 <sup>th</sup> –5 <sup>th</sup> form rear
Female genitalia length	10 (9–11)	15	13–16
Female genitalia width	18 (17–19)	24	22–24
Number of longitudinal lines	10	10–12	12–14
Length of caudal seta ( <i>h</i> 2)	30	40	40–51

### Differential diagnosis

Comparing with the other species of the genus it has been confirmed that *Shevtchenkella holoptele* **sp. nov.** expressed some similarities with the *Shevtchenkella baccharis* Keifer, 1939 (Fletchmann *et al.* 2015) by having more than 3-rayed empodium, ornamented coxae, dorsal annuli with discontinuous central median ridge and not bifurcate poststernal apodeme line. Difference between these two species is prominent in prodorsal shield design. In *Shevtchenkella holoptele* **sp. nov.** short median line forms an inverted 'U' shaped structure whereas median line completely absent in *S. baccharis*. The empodium is 4-rayed in *S. baccharis* whereas *S. holoptele* **sp. nov.** has 6-rayed. The number of striae on genital cover flap varied with compared species. In the new species it is 10 whereas 12–14 in *S. baccharis*. Other differentiable morphometric features between two species are given in Table 1.

## Family Diptilomiopidae Keifer, 1944 Subfamily Diptilomiopinae Keifer, 1944

### *Diptilomiopus cordifoliae* **sp. nov.** (Fig. 2)

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:act:BBD7E6C7-1840-4DE7-9DE2-3648738F003F>

### Description

**Female (n = 10)** – Body 156 (154–157), 56 (54–58) wide, 60 (58–65) thick, fusiform.

**Gnathosoma** – 49 (48–50), projecting downward, dorsal pedipalp genual seta (*d*) 4 (4–5), chelicerae 56 (55–57).

**Prodorsal shield** – 21 (19–23), 47 (45–48) wide, ornamentation on shield consisting ridge forming cell like pattern, a row of 10 complete cells attached to the anterior shield margin, one big cell present at the center of shield, two incomplete cells laterally extended from the central cell and attached to the posterior margin, a pair of complete cells situated between the central cell and posterior shield margin, scapular setae (*sc*) and tubercles absent.

**Coxigenital region** – Coxal plate smooth, coxa I 18 (17–20), sternal line 17 (16–18), proximal seta on coxisternum I (*1a*) 25 (23–25), 10 (9–12) apart, anterolateral seta on coxisternum I (*1b*) absent. Coxa II 12 (11–13), coxal bases 18 (16–19) apart, proximal seta on coxisternum II (*2a*) 44 (43–45), 27 (26–28) apart. Coxigenital region with 6 (5–7) semiannuli between coxae and genitalia.

**Legs** – Leg I 34 (33–35), femur 18 (17–19), genu absent, tibia 7 (5–9), tarsus 9 (7–10), basiventral femoral setae (*bv*) absent, antaxial genual setae (*l''*) absent, paraxial tibial setae (*l'*) absent, paraxial fastigial tarsal setae (*ft'*) 38 (35–38), antaxial fastigial tarsal setae (*ft''*) 38 (36–38), paraxial unguinal tarsal setae (*u'*) 7 (5–8), tarsal empodium (*em*) 7 (6–7), divided, 7-rayed, tarsal solenidion ( $\omega$ ) 5 (5–6), knobbed. Leg II length 25 (24–27), femur 15 (14–16), genu absent, tibia 5 (4–6), tarsus 5 (4–6), basiventral femoral setae (*bv*) absent, antaxial genual setae (*l''*) absent, paraxial fastigial tarsal setae (*ft'*) absent, antaxial fastigial tarsal setae (*ft''*) 32 (31–33), paraxial unguinal tarsal setae (*u'*) 6 (5–7), tarsal empodium (*em*) 8 (7–9), divided, 7-rayed, tarsal solenidion ( $\omega$ ) 5 (4–6), knobbed.

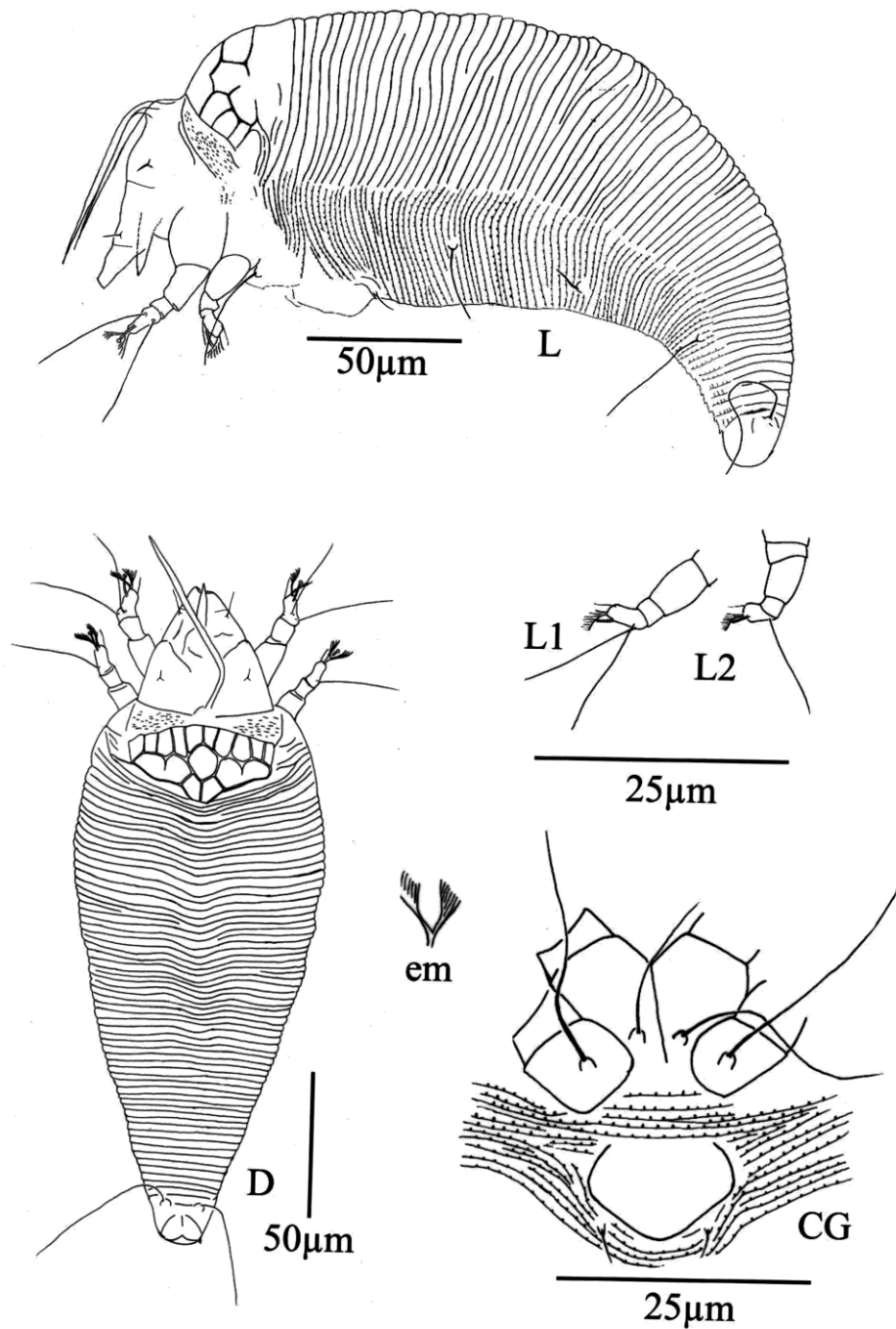
**Opisthosoma** – With 64 (63–65) dorsal annuli, smooth, with slight median ridge, 91 (89–92) ventral annuli, with bead shaped microtubercles. Opisthosomal setae *c*2 absent, setae *d* 16 (15–17), on annulus 35 (34–36), 25 (23–25) apart, setae *e* 6 (5–7), on annulus 54 (53–55), 28 (26–28) apart, setae *f* 25 (23–26), on annulus 80 (78–81), 30 (28–31) apart, setae *h*1 absent, setae *h*2 25 (23–26).

**External genitalia** – Smooth, nearly subtriangular, 17 (15–18), 25 (22–25) wide, proximal seta on coxisternum III (*3a*) 5 (4–6).

**Host plant** – *Haldina cordifolia* (Roxb.) (family Rubiaceae).

**Relation to the host** – Vagrant on the underside of leaves causing no damage.

**Type locality** – India, West Bengal, Nadia, Madanpur (23° 58' N, 88° 29' E), 14 m above sea level, 14 February 2018, coll. Shamik Dey.



**Figure 2.** *Diptilomiopus cordifoliae* sp. nov. (female) – D. Dorsal habitus; L. Lateral habitus; L1. Leg I; L2. Leg II. em: empodium; CG: Coxogenital region.

**Type material** – HOLOTYPE, single female (slide number. Acar. Lab./BCKV/4196/2018). PARATYPES, 15 slides bearing 22 females (slide number. Acar. Lab./BCKV/4197-4212/2018) with the same data as holotype were deposited in the Acarology Laboratory, BCKV, Kalyani, Nadia, India.

#### *Etymology*

The species name “*cordifoliae*” was taken from the specific name of the host plant.

#### *Differential diagnosis*

Comparing with other species, it is confirmed that *Diptilomiopus cordifoliae* sp. nov. is very

close to *Diptilomiopus floridanus* Craemer & Amrine, 2017 in some similar morphological characters e.g., absence of setae *sc*, opisthosoma with mid-dorsal longitudinal ridge, dorsal annuli without microtubercles, leg II with absence of paraxial fastigial tarsal seta (*ft'*), absence of seta *bv*, absence of tibial seta and the microtubercles on ventral annuli relatively small. However, *D. cordifoliae* **sp. nov.** is considered as new species in the genus due to having some characteristics which distinguish it from its close species. Prominent differences are observed in shield design. In the new species a row of 10 cells present at anterior margin but in *D. floridanus* the row comprises of 12 cells. Tubercles of scapular setae absent in *D. cordifoliae* but they are present in *D. floridanus*. Other morphological measurements (Table 2) which differ between the compared species present the supportive evidence for claiming it a new species.

**Table 2.** Distinguishing characters between *Diptilomiopus cordifoliae* **sp. nov.** and *Diptilomiopus floridanus* Craemer & Amrine, 2017

Characters	<i>Diptilomiopus cordifoliae</i> <b>sp. nov.</b>	<i>Diptilomiopus floridanus</i> Craemer & Amrine, 2017
Body length	156 (154–157)	195 (175–202)
Body breadth	56 (54–58)	69 (65–88)
Prodorsal shield length	21 (19–23)	31 (26–33)
Prodorsal shield width	47 (45–48)	70 (52–70)
Tubercles of scapular setae	Absent	Present
Length of Leg I	34 (33–35)	29 (28–31)
Length of femur	18 (17–19)	8–11
Length of tibia	7 (5–9)	5 (4–5)
Length of tarsus	9 (7–10)	8 (6–9)
Length of paraxial fastigial tarsal seta ( <i>ft'</i> )	38 (35–38)	30 (29–32)
Length of antaxial fastigial tarsal seta ( <i>ft''</i> )	38 (36–38)	33 (29–33)
Length of paraxial unguinal tarsal seta	7 (5–8)	5 (5–6)
Number of rays in empodium	7	5
Length of empodium ( <i>em</i> )	7 (6–7)	8 (6–9)
Length of Leg II	25 (24–27)	48 (44–48)
Length of tarsus	5 (4–6)	9 (7–9)
Length of antaxial fastigial tarsal seta ( <i>ft''</i> )	32 (31–33)	27 (25–27)
Number of rays in empodium	7	5
Number of ventral annulus	91 (89–92)	68 (62–73)
Length of setae <i>d</i> and on annulus	16 (15–17), on annulus 35 (34–36)	20 (11–20), on annulus 22 (22–28)
Length of setae <i>e</i> and on annulus	6 (5–7), on annulus 54 (53–55)	15 (9–15), on annulus 41 (37–45)
Length of setae <i>f</i> and on annulus	25 (23–26), on annulus 80 (78–81)	37 (23–37), on annulus 62 (54–65)
Female genitalia length	17 (15–18)	13 (12–14)
Length of proximal seta ( <i>3a</i> )	5 (4–6)	7 (6–8)
Length of caudal seta ( <i>h2</i> )	25 (23–26)	58 (38–58)
<i>1a-1a</i> distance	10 (9–12)	7 (6–9)
<i>2a-2a</i> distance	27 (26–28)	24 (24–31)

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توصیف دو گونه جدید کنه اریوفیوئید (**Acari: Eriophyoidea**) از منطقه آبرفتی جدید، بنگال غربی، هند

شامیک دی<sup>۱</sup> و پراناب دنبات<sup>۲\*</sup>

۱. دانشکده علوم کشاورزی، دانشگاه JIS، کلکته، هند؛ رایانامه: [deyshamik93@gmail.com](mailto:deyshamik93@gmail.com)

۲. گروه حشره‌شناسی کشاورزی، بیدهان چاندراکریشی ویسویدیالایا، نادیا، ۷۴۱۲۵۲، بنگال غربی، هند؛ رایانامه: [pranab.bckv@gmail.com](mailto:pranab.bckv@gmail.com)

\* نویسنده مسئول

چکیده

دو گونه جدید کنه اریوفیوئید، *Shevtchenkella holoptele* sp. nov. از روی *Holoptelea integrifolia* (Roxb.) (Ulmaceae) و *Diptilomiopus cordifoliae* sp. nov. از *Haldina cordifolia* (Roxb.) (Rubiaceae) از منطقه آبرفتی جدید بنگال غربی، هند توصیف و ترسیم می‌شوند. دو گونه کنه جدید بدون ایجاد نشانه‌های خسارت قابل مشاهده در زیر سطح برگ‌ها آزاد بودند.

واژگان کلیدی: *Shevtchenkella*, Eriophyidae, Diptilomiopus, Diptilomiopidae، آرایه‌شناسی.

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