

PAPILLONOTUS TRICARINATUS SP. NOV. FROM INDIA (ACARINA: ORIBATIDA: OPPIIDAE)

S. Sarkar * & L.-Ş. Subías **

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RESUM

Papillonotus tricarinatus (Acarina: Oribatida: Oppiidae) sp. nov. de l'Índia

Es descriu una nova espècie d'oribàtid, ***Papillonotus tricarinatus*** sp. nov., de sòls de Tripura, Índia. Aquest gènere és citat per primera vegada per a l'Índia.

In this paper about the Oribatid fauna of Tripura, India, we study the specimens belonging to the family Oppiidae, genus *Papillonotus* Wallwork, 1961. The materials were collected by Mrs. Sadhana Sarkar and studied by the authors in the Departamento de Entomología, Facultad de Biología, Universidad Complutense de Madrid.

Papillonotus tricarinatus sp. nov. (fig. 1)

Colour. Dark brown.

Measurement. Length of body, 278 μm to 291 μm ; width, 151 μm to 159 μm .

Prodorsum. Rostrum rounded with a tubercle in the middle; rostral setae thick, setiform, curved and barbed; lamellae ending in a prominent cuspis; translamella interrupted medially; lamellar setae membranous, short and broad; 3 distinct ridges present extending from rostral to translamellar region, middle one straight and the

lateral ones curved; interlamellae setae similar to lamellar ones and bounded by ridges laterally and anteriorly; in between interlamellar setae clear areolae present; sensilla with papillate expanded head; bothridium cup-shaped and directed laterally.

Notogaster. Anterior margin of notogaster pointed medially, protruding into the prodorsum and interrupted medially; laterally this margin possesses slight projections facing bothridia; one pair of longitudinal ridges present all over the notogaster medially and ornamented with irregular tubercles; lateral to these ridges the notogaster has in some specimens a reticulated appearance; 9 pairs of well developed notogastral setae, membranous with midrib, very long and broad, only c_2 setae seems not to be developed.

Ventral region. Epimeral region possess several light areas; setal formula 3:1:3:3, but 1_c is not discernible; epimeral plate IV

* Zoology Department. M.B.B. College. Agartala 799004. Tripura. India.

** Càtedra d'Entomologia. Facultat de Biologia. Universitat Complutense. Madrid, 3.

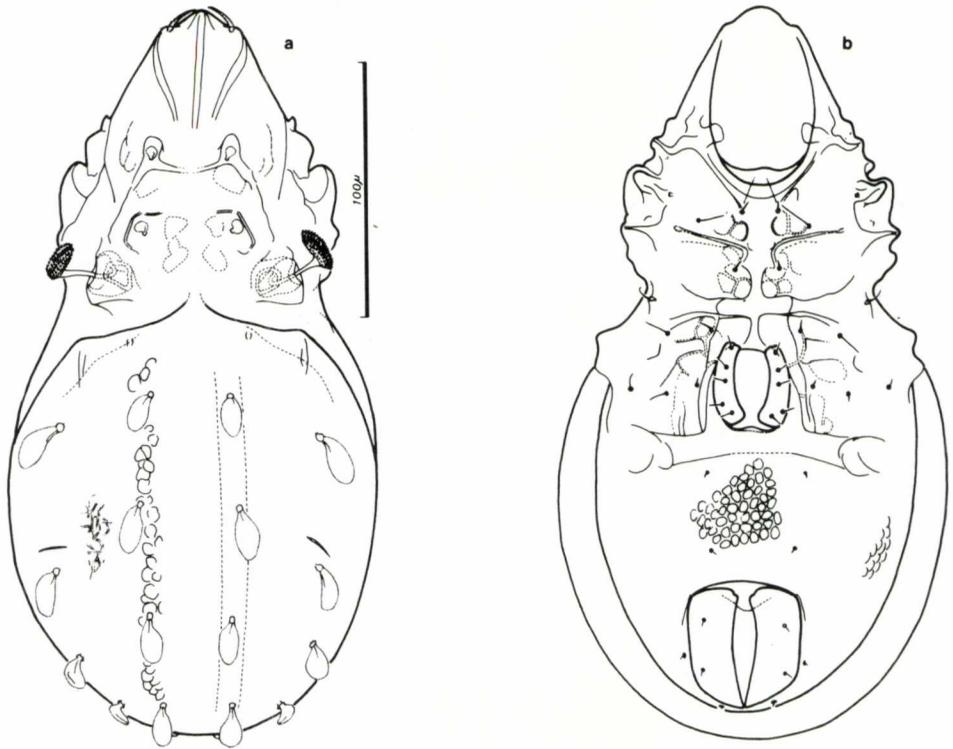


FIG. 1. *Papillonotus tricarinatus* sp. nov.: a) dorsal view; b) ventral view.

extending posteriorly to the end of genital plates; genital setae 5 pairs thin, smooth, moderately long; anal setae 2 pairs similar to genital but shorter; adanal setae 3 pairs minute, ad_3 in front of anal plates; iad fissures adjacent to anterolateral border of anal plates; adgenital setae 1 pair also minute; ventral plate tuberculated-reticulated.

Discussion. The genus *Papillonotus* was described by WALLWORK (1961) from Ghana on the basis of two species, *P. maculatus* and *P. granulatus* and no other species of the genus was later described by the authors till now.

The new species is different from the other two in the possession of 3 ridges extended from rostrum to translamella and also in having broader notogastral setae. Our species is very different from *P. maculatus* in the structure of lamellae and translamellae and the position of ad_3 , being more closely related to *P. granulatus*.

Because of the characteristic epimeral region and general structure of the genus probably *Papillonotus* would have to be separated from the family Oppiidae s. str.

Material examined. 3 adults from Atharamura (Tripura) on 10-V-1975; the holotype and 1 paratype deposited in the Departamento de Entomología, Facultad de Biología, Universidad Complutense de Madrid and the other paratype in the Department of Zoology, M. B. B. College, Agartala, Tripura; all the specimens preserved in 70 % lactic acid.

REFERENCES

- WALLWORK, J. A. 1961. Some Oribatei from Ghana. VI. Some members of the family Eremaeidae Willmann 1931 (1st. series). *Acarologia*, 3 (3): 344-362.