

Two new species of zerconid mites from Turkey

(Acari: Zerconidae)

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Abstract. Two new species of zerconid mites, *Zercon tefenniensis* sp. n. and *Prozercon erdogani* sp. n., are described and illustrated on the basis of material collected from Turkey.

Key words. Acari, Zerconidae, *Zercon*, *Prozercon*, taxonomy, Turkey.

Introduction

The genera *Zercon* and *Prozercon*, based on the number of species in Turkey and worldwide, are the richest genera in the family Zerconidae. They include around 300 and 100 species worldwide, respectively. So far, 50 species of the genus *Zercon* and 20 species of genus *Prozercon* have been recorded from Turkey (BLASZAK 1979, URHAN 2002, 2009 a, b). In this paper, as a contribution to our understanding of the acarine faunal richness of Turkey, two new species of the genera *Zercon* and *Prozercon*, *Z. tefenniensis* sp. n. and *P. erdogani* sp. n., are described from material collected during studies on the zerconid mites of Turkey.

Methods

Soil and litter samples were placed in plastic bags, labelled and transferred to the laboratory. Samples were then placed in combined Berlese funnels, and mites were extracted for 5-7 days according to the humidity of the samples. At the end of this process, the contents of the bottles were transferred to Petri dishes and mites were separated under a stereo-microscope. They were placed in 60% lactic acid for clearing and mounted on permanent microscope slides using a glycerine medium. The examination and drawing of mites were carried out using an Olympus BX50 microscope. Morphological terminology used in the descriptions follows that of SELLNICK (1958), HALAŠKOVÁ (1969), BLASZAK (1974) and MAŠÁN & FEND'A (2004).

Zercon tefenniensis sp. n. (Figs 1A-E)

Material: Holotype (♀): Tefenni (37°19'16"N, 29°41'50"E), Burdur prov., Turkey, 1450 m, 29.v.2008. Sample of litter and soil in a mixed forest (mostly *Pinus* sp.). – Paratypes (9 ♀, 4 ♂ and 2 deutonymphs): same data as holotype. Holotype and paratypes are deposited in the Department of Biology of Pamukkale University, Denizli, Turkey.

Diagnosis: Anterior margin of ventro-anal shield with two pairs of setae. Dorsal cavities of general size and appearance, saddle-like and with undulating anterior margin. Setae j2 barbed, r3 barbed with hyaline ending. Pores Po₃ situated between setal rows J and Z, above