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## GLIRICOPTES ZAPUS SP. N. (ACARI: MYOCOPTIDAE) FROM ZAPUS FROM WASHINGTON AND BRITISH COLUMBIA

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**ABSTRACT:** A new species of myocoptid mite, *Gliricoptes zapus*, is described from *Zapus trinotatus* from Washington and British Columbia.

The myocoptid mite genus *Gliricoptes* was previously represented by eight Old World species, six from various genera of dormice (Gliridae), one from a spiny dormouse (Platanthomyidae), and one from *Sicista betulina* (Zapodidae) from Poland. The new species described here is the first representative of the genus from North America, and the first myocoptid from a North American zapodid. The occurrence of this genus on two zapodids as well as on the glirids could indicate evolutionary affinities between those groups. This opinion is reinforced by an observation made recently by Fain (1974). In the family Myobiidae the genus *Radfordia* subgenus *Graphiurobia* contains four species living on Gliridae, two species on Cricetidae and one species (*R. (G.) ewingi*) on an American zapodid.

### Family Myocoptidae Gunther, 1942

### Genus *Gliricoptes* Lawrence, 1956

### *Gliricoptes zapus* sp. n.

(Figs. 1-4)

**Male** (holotype) (Figs. 1-2): Total length (gnathosoma and posterior lobes included) 255  $\mu$ , maximum width 156  $\mu$ . Body broadly oval. Posterior lobes broad, longer than wide, posterior margins rounded. **Dorsum:** Small propodosomal shield present. Hysterosoma bearing a poorly and irregularly sclerotized shield. Setae *sc e* thick, finely attenuated apically. **Venter:** All epimera free. Two small adanal suckers. Aedeagus rather long and narrow. Base of genital organ forms a transverse sclerite reaching laterally nearly to *gm* setae. **Legs** IV normally developed.

**Female** (allotype) (Figs. 3-4): Total length 324  $\mu$ , maximum width 168  $\mu$ . In allotype and

2 paratypes cuticle macerated in posterior part of body. In this area the cuticle is detached and extends to some distance behind the body giving an artificial elongate aspect to the body. Moreover, the hairs which are normally inserted not far from the anus have been pulled posteriorly with the cuticle while their insertion bases remain at their normal places. Cuticular striation poorly visible. Dorsal shields as in male but hysterosomal shield shorter with posterior border slightly concave. Epimera as in the male. **Legs:** femora III and IV with transverse ventral thickening visible only at certain orientations of the leg.

### Systematic position of this new species

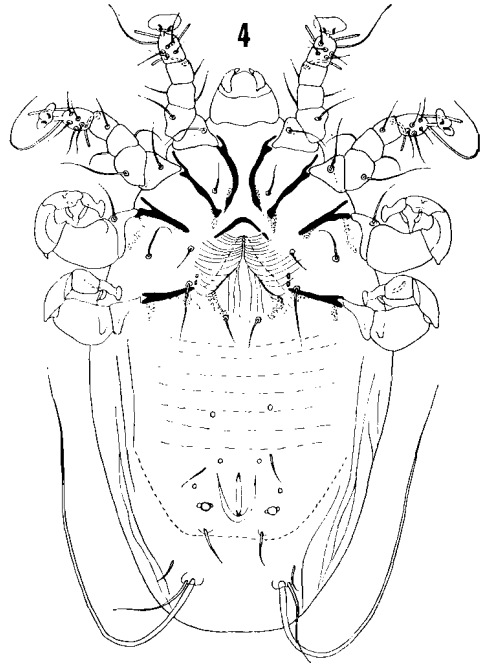
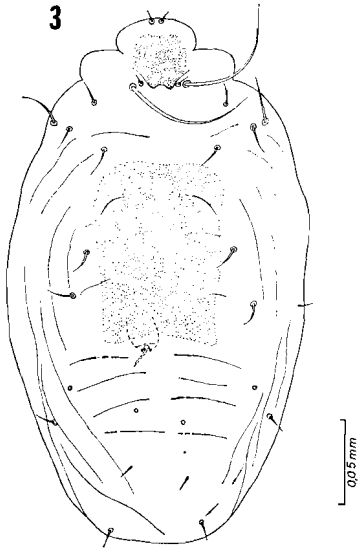
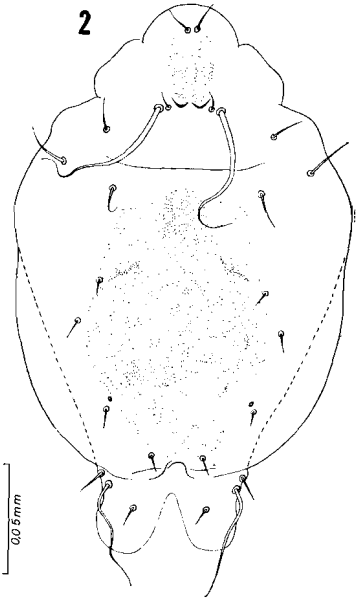
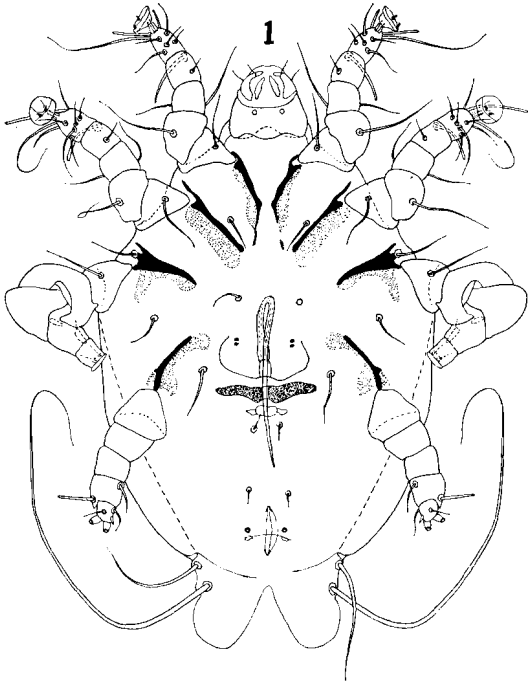
In the relatively long and rounded posterior lobes of the male this species resembles *G. graphiuri* Fain, 1970, *G. betulinus* Kok et al., 1971, and *G. eliomys* Kok et al., 1971. It differs from *G. graphiuri* by the absence of triangular scales on coxae and trochanters IV, by the longer aedeagus, by the narrower shape of the posterior lobes, and by the smaller size of legs III and larger size of the body. It differs from *G. betulinus* by the much smaller and shorter size of the aedeagus, from *G. eliomys* by the presence of *sh* setae, the longer aedeagus, and the different shape of the post-genital sclerite.

### Hosts and locality

- 1) On *Zapus trinotatus*, from Washington, Mason Co., Olympia, Lana Creek Rd. 249, 30 June 73, Coll. G. S. Jones (holotype male and allotype female); from British Columbia, Fraser River Valley, 23 July 1972, Coll. G. S. Jones (paratype female).
- 2) On *Zapus* sp., British Columbia, Junct. Cottonwood River, 30 July 1972. Coll. G. S. Jones (1 paratype female).

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FIGURES 1-4. *Gliricoptes zapus* sp. n. 1. Male, holotype in ventral view. 2. Male, holotype and 3. female, allotype, in dorsal view. 4. Female, allotype, in ventral view.



Types in U. S. National Museum, Washington.  
Holotype, No. 3647.

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