COENDALGES PANAMENSIS G.N., SP.N. FROM THE PORCUPINE IN PANAMA (ASTIGMATA: LOBALGIDAE)

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----- ABSTRACT—*Coendalges panamensis* g. n., sp. n. obtained from the skin of the Panamanian porcupine, *Coendou rothschildi* Thomas is described and illustrated. A new subfamily, Coendalginae, is erected in the family Lobalgidae to include this genus. -----

The family Lobalgidae Fain, is comprised of two subfamilies: Lobalginae Fain, 1965, and Echimytricalginae Fain, 1970.

The Lobalginae are represented only by the type genus & species, *Lobalges trouessarti* Fonseca, 1954, collected from the sloths, *Bradypus tridactylus* and *Choloepus didactylus*, in South America.

The Echimytricalginae contain one genus and three species all from South America: *Echimytricalges braziliensis* Fain, 1970, from the spiny rat (*Echimys braziliensis*); *E. guyanensis* Fain, 1970, from the opossum (*Philander philander*), and *E. surinamensis* Fain and Lukoschus, 1970, from the spiny rat. (*Proechimys guyannensis*).

The new genus described here is more closely related to the Lobalgidae than to the Psoroptidae. However, it cannot be included in any of the two subfamilies. Therefore, a new subfamily Coendalginae to include the new species is erected.

The type host of this taxon, *Coendou rothschildi*, inhabits lowland forests of Panama with the only possible exception being western Caribbean coast (Handley, 1966).

Family LOBALGIDAE Fain, 1965
Subfamily COENDALGINAE Subfam. Nov.

DEFINITION—Idiosoma in both sexes broadly oval and cuticle striated; 2 well-developed dorsal shields-one propodonotal and one hysteronotal, setae *v i* present; tarsi I-IV extremely long (especially tarsi III-IV in female) and terminate in a pedunculated sucker; tarsi I-II with an apico-ventral curved process; posterior extremity in female divided in two lobes; epimerae I widely separated by a well developed epigynium. Vulva forms an inverted Y; legs IV in male very long and strong; legs III thin and of normal length. Opisthosoma in ♂ conical, with a memberanous apex slightly divided in midline; with two well formed adanal suckers; setae *d 5* and *l 5* inserted laterally and close together.

TYPE GENUS—*Coendalges* gen. nov.

REMARKS—This new subfamily is clearly distinguished from the two other subfamilies in the Lobalgidae by the following characters: presence of *v i* setae, shape of epimerae I (which are separated); presence of apical curved processes on tarsi I-II; anterior position of epigynium and great elongation of tarsi III-IV in female.

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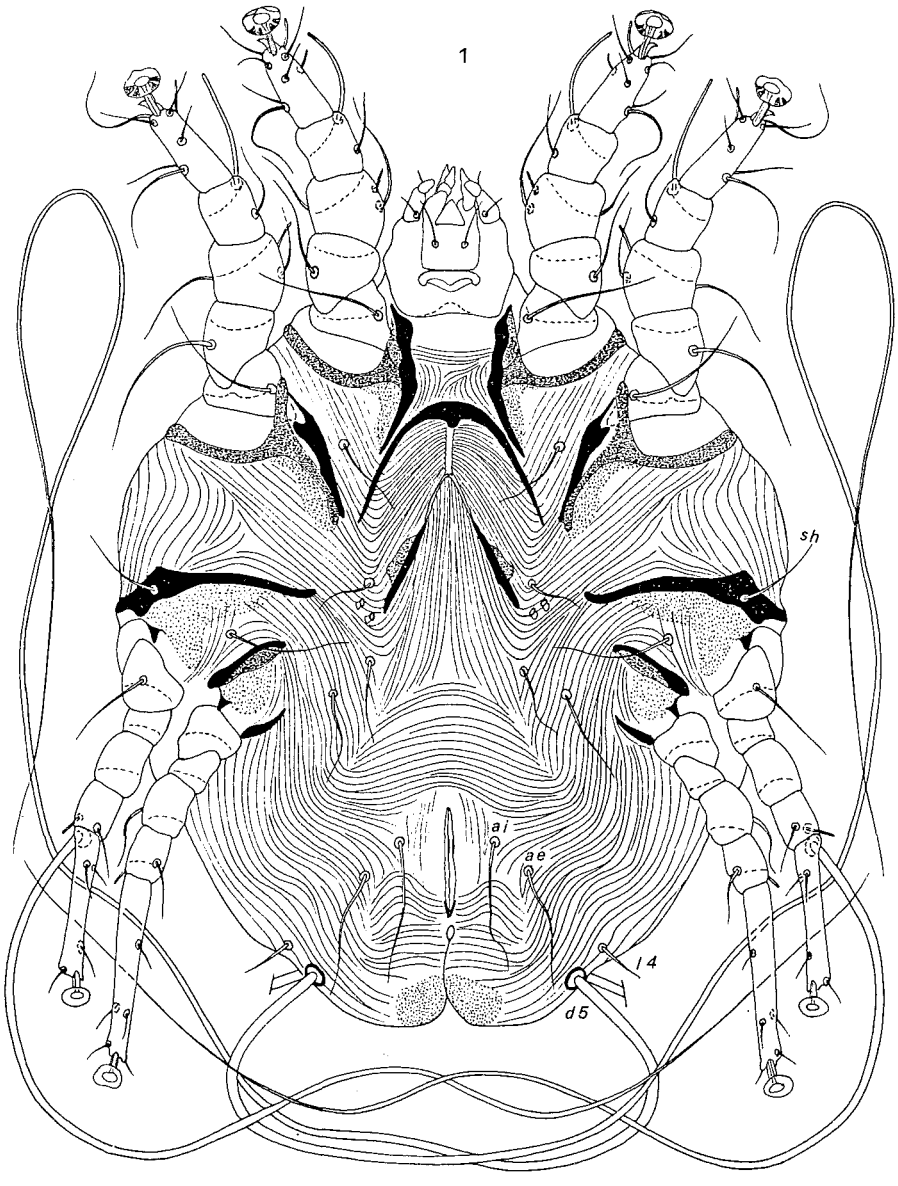


Figs. 1: *Coendalges panamensis* sp. n. (female holotype)-ventral view.

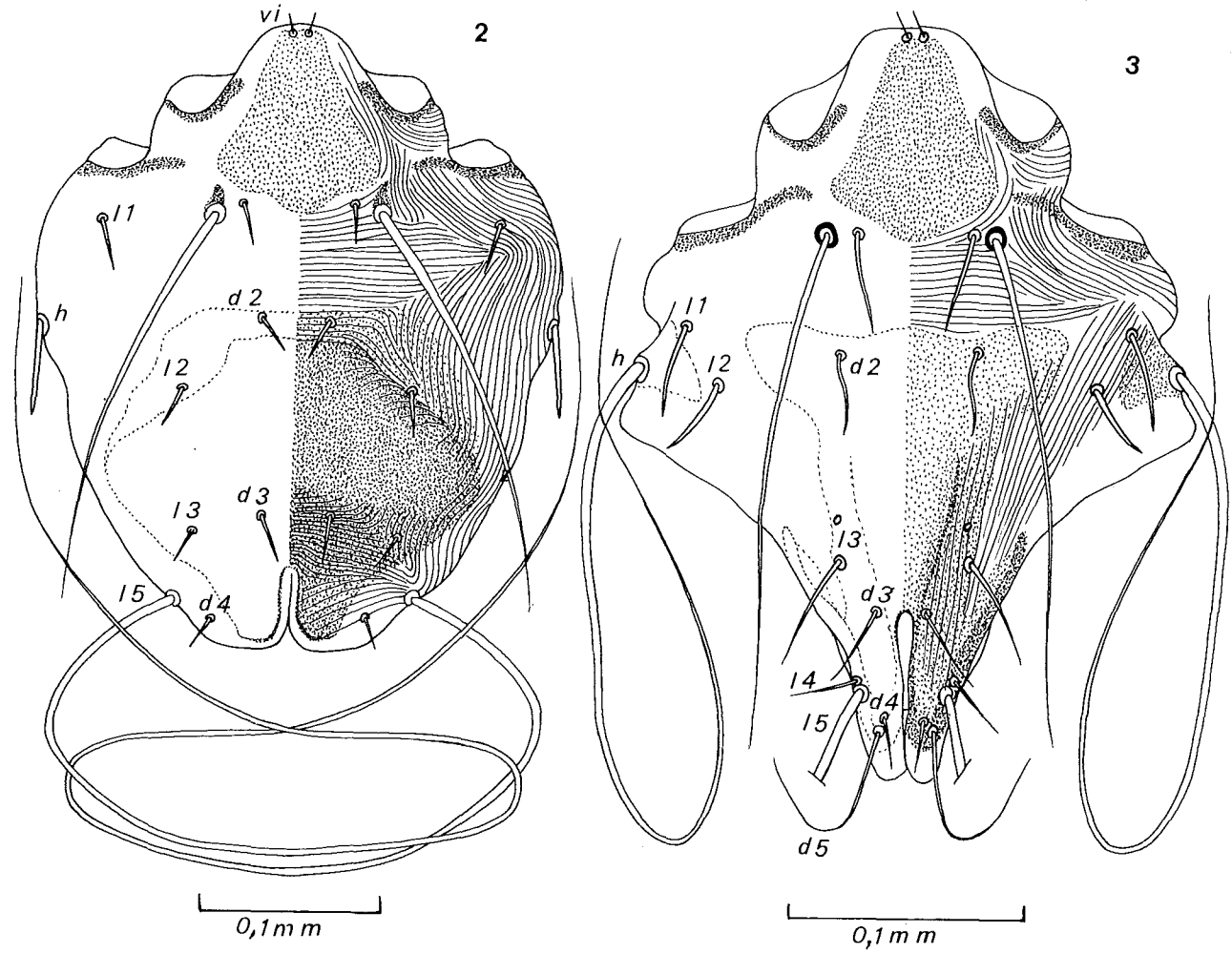
Genus *COENDALGES* gen. nov.

DEFINITION--With the characters of the subfamily.

TYPE SPECIES--*Coendalges panamensis* sp. n.

Coendalges panamensis spec. nov.

FEMALE (Figs. 1-2)—Idiosoma in holotype 348μ long and 302μ wide. DORSUM: Propodosomal shield well developed, maximum width 93μ; hysteronotal shield much wider than long; setae present: *v i, sc i, sc e, h, d 2* to *d 5, l* 1 to *l 5, sh, a i, a e, g* 1, *g 2, cx I, cx III.* VENTER: All epimerae free; epigynium resembling an inverted U and located between epimerae I; anterior legs with apical curved processes, tarsi much longer than tibiae; posterior legs without curved apical processes, tarsus longer than tibia and genu taken together; number of setae on legs I-IV: tarsi 8-7-6-5; tibiae 1-1-1-1; genua 2-2-0-0; femora 1-1-0-0; trochanters 1-1-1-0; basal seta of tarsus III very long and strong.



Figs. 2, 3: *Coendalges panamensis* sp. n.–2, dorsal view (♀); 3, dorsal view (♂).

MALE (Figs. 3-4)—Allotype 321μ long (idiosoma, in midline) and 225μ wide. DORSUM—With two shields, hysteronotal shield more or less T-shaped. VENTER–Epimerae I-II separated, epimerae III-IV close together but not fused; coxa III completely punctate; aedeagus cylindrical, short; legs I-II as in female; legs III very strong and extremely long, ending in a long tarsus and with bifid apex; legs III narrow, with a normally formed tarsus; tarsi with 8-7-6-5 setae; 3 simple setae and 2 modified and very small disc-like apical setae on tarsus IV.

TRITONYMPH—250μ long (idiosoma), in another specimen 305μ long; similar to female except that posterior margin not divided and vulva is absent.

TYPE DATA—On *Coendou rothschildi* Thomas from Aguacate, Capira, Panama Province, R. P., 4. I. 1979 (Coll. H. Montenegro). Holotype and 12 female paratypes, allotype and 3 male paratypes, 6 tritonymph paratypes, collection data as above. Holotype in the Institut royal des Sciences naturelles, Belgique. Paratypes in collections of the authors.

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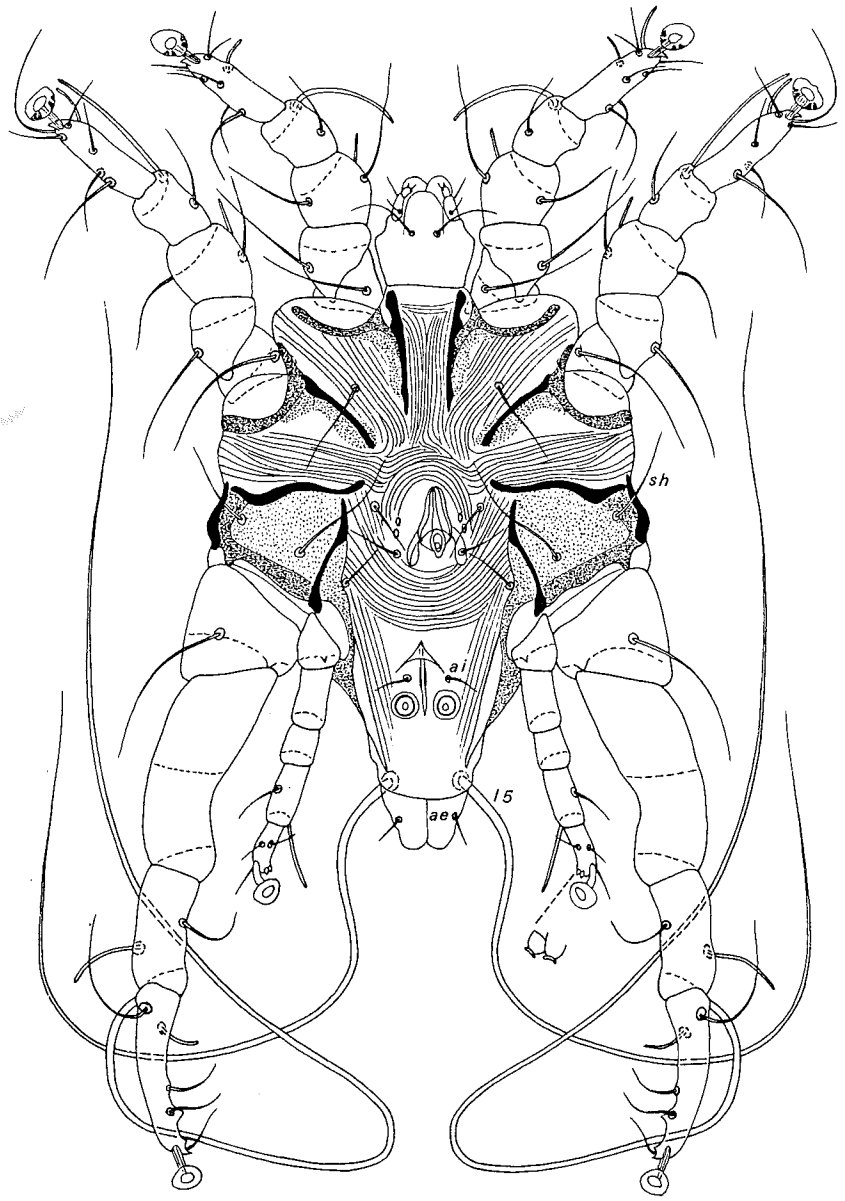

Fig. 4: *Coendalges panamensis* sp. n.–ventral view (♂).

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