REVISION OF THE GENUS ORNITHOCHEYLETIA VOLGIN, 1964 (ACARI: CHEYLETIDAE)

A. FAIN

Instituut voor Tropische Geneeskunde "Prins Leopold", Nationalestraat 155, B-2000 Antwerp, Belgium

Summary

The genus Ornithocheyletia Volgin, 1964 is revised. If the three species described below are included the number of known species in this genus is now 22. These species live on or in the skin of birds and produce mange. The holotypes of all these species have been examined except those of O. pinguis (Berlese) and of O. dubinini Volgin which were not available. Three new species and one new subspecies are described: O. geopeliae sp. nov. from Geopelia striata, O. lepidus sp. nov. from Garrulax leucolophus bicolor, O. eulabes from Eulabes javana and O. psittaci poicephali ssp. nov. from Poicephalus senegalus. O. similis Fain, 1972 is placed as a subspecies of O. hallae Smiley, 1970. The genus Ornithocheyletia is redefined and a key to the species is provided. The following stages have been observed in the life cycle: egg — prelarva — larva protonymph — tritonymph — adults. A prelarva is observed for the first time: it is represented by a small ecdysis organ consisting of two small bifid sclerites serving for the rupture of the eggshell. The adult female develops into a tritonymph, the adult male into a protonymph. The males are either homeomorphic or heteromorphic; the latter are characterized by the hypertrophy and modification of the gnathosoma, especially the palps.

Introduction

The genus Ornithocheyletia Volgin, 1964 is a cosmopolitan group of mites, all parasitic on or in the skin of birds and producing mange. If the three new species described herein are included the number of known species is now 22. Of these, 12 live on Passeriformes, five on Psittaciformes, two on Columbiformes, two on Piciformes and one on Galliformes.

Most of these species have been briefly described, without figures, and their identification is therefore difficult. The purpose of this paper is to complete these descriptions and to give the first figures. In addition, three new species and one new subspecies are described and a new definition of the genus *Ornithocheyletia* is given. Keys for females and males of all the known species are provided. Among the described species, *O. similis* Fain, 1972 is placed here as a subspecies of *O. hallae* Smiley, 1970.

For this study, the holotypes of all the described species, except those of *O. pinguis* (Berlese) and of *O. dubinini* Volgin, which were not available, were examined.

In these descriptions, the nomenclature of the idiosomal setae proposed recently (Fain, 1979) is used. The body setae are either smooth or barbed with thin distinct barbs or serrate with very small and poorly distinct denticulations.

The length of the dorsal plates and the gnathosoma is taken in the midline; the width of the body and of the plates is the maximum width. The total length of the body includes the gnathosoma in the midline.

Abbreviations of the Institutions where the types have been deposited are: ABF = Acarotheca of Berlese, Firenze; ASL = Academy of Sciences, Leningrad; IAC = Institute of Acarology, Colum-

bus, USA; IRSNB = Institut royal des Sciences naturelles de Belgique; MCZ = Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard; MRAC = Musée royal de l'Afrique Centrale, Tervuren; SAIMR = South African Institute for Medical Research; USNM = United States National Museum, Washington.

Genus Ornithochevletia Volgin, 1964

Definition

Female: Body short and wide. Cuticle striated, except in the median area of dorsum which bears three sclerotized plates: two large, anterior (propodonotal) or median (hysteronotal), and a much smaller subterminal (pygidial). In some species these plates are very poorly or not sclerotized and bear very fine striations. Ventral surface striated. The coxae are sclerotized and in some species their internal part is striated. Vulva subtermino-ventral. Anus generally terminal. Gnathosoma small with relatively long palps; palpfemur long; palptibia short ending in a curved spine (sometimes called "claw"); palptarsus without combs. Peritremes short, with three or four pairs of segments. Legs well developed. Coxae forming two groups separated by striated cuticle, an anterior with coxae I-II and a posterior smaller with coxae III-IV. Tarsi with a dorsal preapical protuberance and ending in paired claws and a multi-rayed empodium.

Male: Dorsum either with two sclerotized median plates (propodonotal and hysteronotal) or striated without these plates. Genital orifice situated in posterior region of dorsum, not far from posterior extremity. Ventral surface either striated as in female or bearing two median punctate plates. The penis is tubular. The males are either homeomorphic or heteromorphic. In the heteromorphic males the gnathosoma and the palps are larger and modified in shape.

Chaetotaxy and solenidiotaxy (see Fain, 1979): the setae are either bare or barbed or serrate. Female with the following setae: v i, v e, sc i, sc e, h, d 1, 1 1, 1 2, 1 3, 1 4, 1 5, ic 1, ic 3, ic 4, g 1, g 2, g 3, g 4, g 5, a 1, a 2, a 3. Setae g 4 and g 5 are barbed. Setae l 2 are lacking in one species. Legs: coxae 2-1-2-1 except in (?) O. pinguis where these setae are 1-1-0-0;

trochanters 1-1-0-0; femora 2-2-1-1; genua 2-2-2-1; tibiae 4-4-4 or 4-4-3-3; tarsi 10-7-7-7. In the *male* the *l* 5, *g* 1, *g* 2 and *g* 3 are lacking, the *g* 4, *g* 5, *g* 6 and g 7 are small or very small and situated close to the genital orifice. *Solenidiotaxy*: tarsi 1-1-0-0; tibiae and genua I with one solenidion.

Chaetotaxy in the immatures: In the tritonymph the number of setae is the same as in the female but the g 4 and g 5 are absent and there are only nine setae on tarsus I; the setae are shorter. The protonymph has the same chaetotaxy as the tritonymph but the setae are shorter, the g 1, g 2, g 3, coxal IV, trochanterals I-II and genual IV are lacking and the tarsi IV bear only five setae. Larval chaetotaxy as in the protonymph but the ic 4 and the coxals II and III are lacking, the coxa I bears only one seta (the anterior), the genua I-III bear one seta and the tarsi bear 8-5-5 setae. It is to be noted that the pygidial plate is lacking in the immatures.

Type species: Ornithocheyletia dubinini Volgin, 1964.

Postembryonic development in Ornithocheyletia

The following stages have been observed: egg — prelarva — larva — protonymph — tritonymph — adult. The female develops into a tritonymph, the male into a protonymph. We have not observed deutonymphs. The prelarva is represented by a membranous sac bearing two bifid sclerotized structures serving for the rupture of the eggshell (fig. 10-10b).

Key to the Species

Females

1. Coxal setae 1-1-0-0. All dorsal setae smooth.
Setae sc e, h and l 1 long, subequal. Setae 1 5
situated off the pygidial plate and very long
(about 220 μ) (From the drawings of Berlese)
O. pinguis
(Berlese, 1889)
Coxal setae 2-1-2-1. Setae 1 5 shorter. Other
characters variable 2
2. Setae 12 lacking. Setae 15 long, off the pygidial
plate. Setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and l 1 barbed; other
dorsal setae smooth O. volgini
Smiley, 1970

Setae 1 2 present. Other characters variable	barbed except in <i>O. psittaculae</i> where they are smooth
3. Coxae III-IV with spurs. All dorsal setae	Setae 15 off the pygidial plate and at least 48 μ
smooth. Setae 1 5 off the pygidial plate. Tibiae	apart. Setae sc i barbed and less than 1.5 times
III-IV with 3 setae	as long as v i, the latter and v e are barbed
Coxae III-IV without spurs. Other characters	9. All dorsal setae smooth. Setae <i>sc i</i> as long as <i>l 1</i>
variable 4	(150 μ) O. psittaculae
4. Tibiae III-IV with 4 setae. Setae 1 5 thin and	Fain, 1972
short (25-30 <i>μ</i>) 5	Setae v i, v e, sc e and l 1 barbed. Setae sc i 2.5 to
Tibiae III-IV with 3 setae. Setae l 5 110-180 μ	6 times as long as 1 1 10
long except in O. francolini where they are only	10. Setae 15 very short (16 μ). Setae sc i and d 1
16 μ long 6	about 2.5 times as long (72-80 μ) as l 1. Setae l 2
5. Pygidial plate very small (15 μ long and 28 μ	and 1 3 slighty serrate. (On Galliformes)
wide). Setae 15 situated relatively far from the	O. francolini
pygidial plate. Setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and l 1 are	Fain, 1972
$36-40 \mu \log \dots O. smileyi$	Setae l 5 from 150 to 180 μ long. Setae sc i and
Fain, 1972	$d l$ from 3 to 6 times as long as $l l$ (130-180 μ) (On
Pygidial plate larger (36 μ long and 68 μ wide).	Columbiformes) 11
Setae 15 on soft cuticle very close to the pygidial	11. Setae $sc\ i$ about 6 times as long as (130 μ) as $v\ i$
plate. Setae v i , v e , sc i , sc e and l l are 54-69 μ	and $v \in (20 \mu)$ O. geopeliae
long O. argentinensis	n. sp.
Fain, 1972	Setae sc i from 3 to 3.5 times as long as (180 μ)
6. All dorsal setae thick, rod-like and finely serrate	as $v i$ and $v e$ (45-50 μ)
except h and 15 which are smooth. Setae 15 on	12. Setae $sc i$, h , $d I$ and $l S 180 \mu$ long. Pygidial plate
the pygidial plate and 32-36 μ apart. Setae sc i	45 μ wide O. hallae hallae
and v e subequal	Smiley, 1970
barbed or smooth. Setae 15 either on or off the	Setae sc i , h , d l and l
pygidial plate; in the species where 15 are on this	Fain, 1972
plate the sc i setae are at least twice as long as v e	13. Setae <i>sc e</i> and <i>l I</i> smooth and more than twice as
8	long (105 μ) as v i , v e and s c i . Setae l s very long
7. Total length 365 to 405 μ . Pygidial plate 50 μ	(180 μ)
wide. Length of dorsal setae: $v i 70 \mu$; $v e 78 \mu$; sc	$\operatorname{sp. nov}$.
i 75 μ; sc e 93 μ; d 1 105 μ; h 150 μ: l 1 90 μ: l 2	Setae sc e and 1 1 barbed, shorter and subequal
85 μ : 1 3 75 μ : 1 4 48 μ and 1 5 160 μ	to v i, v e and sc i
O. psittaci psittaci	14. The two main dorsal plates poorly or not
Fain, 1972	sclerotized and completely striated. Base of coxa
Total length 405 μ . Pygidial plate 40 μ wide.	I-II striated
Length of setae: $v i 57 \mu$: $v e$ and $sc i 60 \mu$: $sc e 78$	The two main dorsal plates are sclerotized
μ: d 1 81 μ: h 120 μ: l 1 75 μ; l 2 66 μ; l 3 51 μ; l 4	without distinct striation. Striations on coxae
36 μ and 1 5 110 μ O. psittaci poicephali	I-II variable17
ssp. nov.	15. Setae h , l 4 and l 5 smooth and subequal (150 μ).
8. Setae 1 5 always situated on the pygidial plate	Dorsal plates covered with longitudinal very
and 25-36 μ apart. Setae sc i smooth and 2.5 to 6	thin lines except pygidial plate which is punctate
times as long as v i setae, the latter and v e being	without lines. (On Piciformes) O. gersoni
	Smiley, 1970
	183

Setae <i>l</i> 4 one fifth to one fourth the length of <i>h</i> . The three dorsal plates with thin lines. (On Passeriformes)	22. Solenidion of tibia I curved, 6μ long; solenidion of genu I subcylindrical, thin and 3,2 to 3,6 μ long. Setae d 1 96 μ apart; distance sc i - sc e 30 μ ; setae l 4 35 μ . Idiosoma 282 μ long
gitudinal striations, pygidial plate with transverse striations. Solenidion of tibia I narrow, attenuated apically and 13 μ long. Solenidion of genu I globular. Setae sc e 50-55 μ long, setae d l 120 μ . Total length of body 310-330 μ	23. Solenidion of tibia I either straight or slightly curved and 12 μ long. Setae d 1 60 μ apart; distance sc i- sc e 50 μ; setae l 4 42 μ
17. Setae 12 and 13 shortly barbed (according to the original drawings). Setae 1 5 60 μ apart and situated off the pygidial plate, they are twice as long (150 μ) as the 14 setae (from examination	63 μ
of the holotype) O. canadensis (Banks, 1909)	Males (N.B. (i) The males of O. pinguis, O. lamprocolius,
Setae 1 2 and 1 3 smooth. Other characters variable	O. eulabes, O. lepidus and O. barri are unknown.
8. Setae l 4 110-130 μ long. Internal part of coxae	(ii) The species are represented either by homeomorphic, by heteromorphic or by both types of
I-II not striated. Propodonotal plate 200-220 μ wide. (On <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>)	males) 1. Ventral surface of idiosoma with two large median punctate and not striated plates, one between the anterior coxae I-II, the other be-
Propodonotal plate 102-150 μ wide 20	tween the posterior coxae III-IV 2
19. Propodonotal and hysteronotal plates contiguous, not separated by striated cuticle	Ventral surface of idiosoma between coxae completely striated without median punctate plates.
O. dubinini	In one species (O. psittaci) however the median
Volgin, 1964 Propodonotal and hysteronotal plates separated	striations of the venter are very thin and poorly marked and striations are lacking in the anterior
by 3 or 4 cuticular striations O. barri	part of the venter
Smiley, 1977	2. Tibiae III-IV with 4 setae. Setae se i barbed and
20. Setae <i>d 1</i> short (33 μ) and serrate	as long as the v i and v e O. argentinensis Fain, 1970
Fain, 1972	Tibiae III-IV with 3 setae. Setae sc i smooth and
Setae d I long (100-150 μ) and smooth 21	much longer than the v i and v e
21. Setae l 4 15 μ , h 175 μ . Setae v i , v e , sc i , sc e and l 1 25 μ	3. Both homeomorphic and heteromorphic males with a relatively short palpfemur. In heteromorphic male the palpfemur bears a strong conical apico-internal process. Setae 1 4 and 1 3
•	<u></u>

subequal. Setae v i, v e, sc e barbed	O. volgini Smiley, 1970
Smiley, 1970 and 1977	Setae 12, 13 and 14 without such swellings
Heteromorphic male with a long palpfemur	O. lukoschusi
bearing a small conical interno-ventral process.	Smiley, 1970
Setae l 4 about 3 times as long (32 μ) as l 3.	9. Setae v i , v e , sc i , l l and d l short (18 to 27 μ)
Setae v i, v e, sc e and l 1 slightly serrate	and barbed O. garrulax
O. geopeliae	Fain, 1972
sp. nov.	Setae d I smooth and long; the v i, v e, sc i and l I
4. Dorsal surface of idiosoma with two median	either barbed or smooth
plates completely striated and very poorly or	10. All dorsal setae are either smooth or serrate
not sclerotized	
Dorsal surface of idiosoma with two median	Setae v i, v e, sc i and sc e distinctly barbed
sclerotized plates without striations 9	
5. All dorsal setae relatively long and barbed	11. All dorsal setae cylindrical and serrate except
except 1 2 which is very short and smooth.	the 13 and the genitals which are very thin, short
Ventrally all the coxals are barbed except	and smooth. Anterior part of venter without
anterocoxal I which is very small and smooth.	striations
Setae ic 1 thick, barbed and 3 times as long as ic	Fain, 1972
3 which is smooth O. lawrenceae	Dorsal setae thin, piliform and smooth except <i>v i</i>
Smiley, 1970	and ν e which may present very poorly distinct
Setae h, d 1, 1 3, 1 4, ic 1, ic 4, coxals II and IV,	and short barbs O. psittaculae
posterior coxal I and internal coxal III are	Fain, 1972
smooth. Setae ic 1 and ic 3 subequal 6	12. Setae / 1 smooth (from original drawing)
6. Setae 1 4 about 3 times as long (55-60 μ) as 1 3	O. dubinini
(15-18 μ). Palps very long. Anteromedian part	Volgin, 1964
of gnathosoma ventrally with 2 strong lateral	Setae / 1 barbed 13
incisions. Striations of median part of ventral	13. Setae 1 4 approximately as long as setae h
surface of idiosoma distinctly punctate. Sole-	(130-140 μ) (From the type male)
nidion of tibia I straight, 12 μ long. (Hetero-	O. canadensis
morphic males) O. leiothrix	(Banks, 1909)
Fain, 1972	Setae l 4 much shorter (15-45 μ long) than setae
Setae 1 4 slightly shorter (18-25 μ) than 1 3.	h (104 to 150 μ)
Gnathosoma and palps as in the female, nor-	14. Tibiae III-IV with 4 setae. Setae l 4 15 μ long
mal. Striations of venter not punctate. Sole-	O. smileyi
nidion of the tibia I 4-5 μ long (Homeomorphic	Fain, 1972
males) 7	Tibiae III-IV with 3 setae. Setae l 4 25-45 μ
7. Setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e, and l 1 thin, very shortly	long 15
barbed and 25-30 μ long. Other setae smooth.	15. Setae ic 1 stronger and twice longer (66 μ) than
Setae g 7 short with a thick base	ic 3. Setae 12, 13, 14 serrate. Anterior margin of
O. gersoni	gnathosomal base strongly concave dorsally
Smiley, 1970	(heteromorphic male) O. francolini
Setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and l 1 distinctly barbed.	Fain, 1972
Other characters variable 8	Setae ic 1 thin and not longer than ic 3. Setae 12,
8. Setae 12, 13 and 14 smooth with a short spindle-	13, 14 smooth. Anterior margin of gnathosomal
shaped swelling at 2 μ from their base	base rounded dorsally 16

Study of the Species

Ornithocheyletia pinguis (Berlese, 1889)
 Cheyletiella pinguis Berlese, 1889, 56, p. 3 (Fig. 2)
 Cheletiella pinguis, Oudemans, 1906, p. 213;
 Womersley, 1941, p. 59 (Fig. 6)
 Neocheyletiella pinguis, Baker, 1949, p. 275
 Ornithocheyletia pinguis, Volgin, 1964, pp. 34-36
 (Fig. 1); 1969, p. 396 (Figs. 495-498); Smiley, 1970, p. 1065; 1977, p. 229.

I have not seen specimens of *O. pinguis* but this species should be easily recognized from the original figures by its coxal chaetotaxy which is 1-1-0-0 instead of 2-1-2-1 as in all the other species in the genus. However, owing to the great stability of the coxal setae in the Cheyletidae I surmise that the missing setae were overlooked by Berlese and, therefore, that a re-examination of the type is needed before the exact status of this species can be established.

Host and locality: Turdus merula (L.), Firenze, Italy. Holotype female in ABF. Womersley (1941) recorded the presence of O. pinguis from an Australian parrot Platycercus elegans, in Victoria, Australia. According to Dr. S. Thewke who examined these specimens in 1977, they belong in fact to O. lawrenceae (Mr. D.C. Lee, personal communication).

Ornithocheyletia canadensis (Banks, 1909)
 Cheyletiella canadensis Banks, 1909, p. 133
 Neocheyletiella canadensis, Baker, 1949, p. 272
 (Figs. 4,5)
 Ornithocheyletia canadensis, Volgin, 1964, pp.

32-34 (Figs. 4-6); 1969, p. 393 (Figs. 491-494); Smiley, 1970, p. 1065; 1977, pp. 228-229.

I have re-examined the type slide preparation containing a female and a heteromorphic male. These specimens are mounted in Canada balsam and are strongly retracted and very difficult to study. I give here the characters that could be observed. They correspond with the original drawings of the species.

Female: Dorsum with two sclerotized, unstriated and well separated plates. Setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and l l barbed and 60 to 70 μ long, they are situated on the striated cuticle off the plates. Setae d l, h, l d and l d d smooth and 120 μ , 150 μ , 70 μ and 150 μ long respectively. The l d and d d are very thin and short (15 and 20-25 μ respectively) and, according to the original drawing, they have short barbs. These could not be seen, probably because the opacity of the specimen. Setae d d d situated off the pygidial plate and 60 d apart. Pygidial plate 50 d wide. Legs strongly retracted ventrally so that the tibial setae are not observable. Solenidion of tibia d d thin, cylindrical and relatively long.

Heteromorphic male: Venter completely striated without median punctate plates. Dorsum with two large unstriated plates. Setae d 1, h and l 4 120 μ , 140 μ and 130 μ long respectively. Base of gnathosoma 57 μ wide, total length of gnathosoma 72 μ , palps long and strong, the palpfemur without conical processes.

Host and locality: From a blue-bird Picus viridis (L.), Canada. Types in MCZ.

3. Ornithocheyletia dubinini Volgin, 1964
Ornithocheyletia dubinini Volgin, 1964: 28-36
(Figs. 1-3); 1969: 390 (Figs. 487-490); Smiley, 1970: 1065; 1977: 229.

I have not been able to examine the holotype of this species but have seen several specimens from the type host, *Sturnus vulgaris*, from the Netherlands, which correspond with the description and the figures given by Volgin. In a female the setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and l l are barbed and 55 to 75 μ long. Other setae smooth, h 150 μ , l 4 110 μ , l 5 180 μ , d l 105 μ . The setae l 5 are 60 μ apart and off the pygidial plate. Propodonotal and hysteronotal

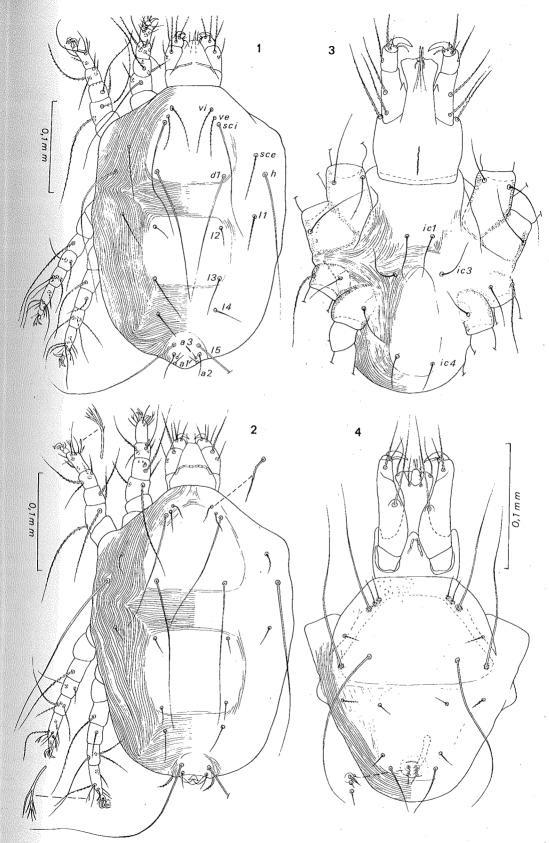
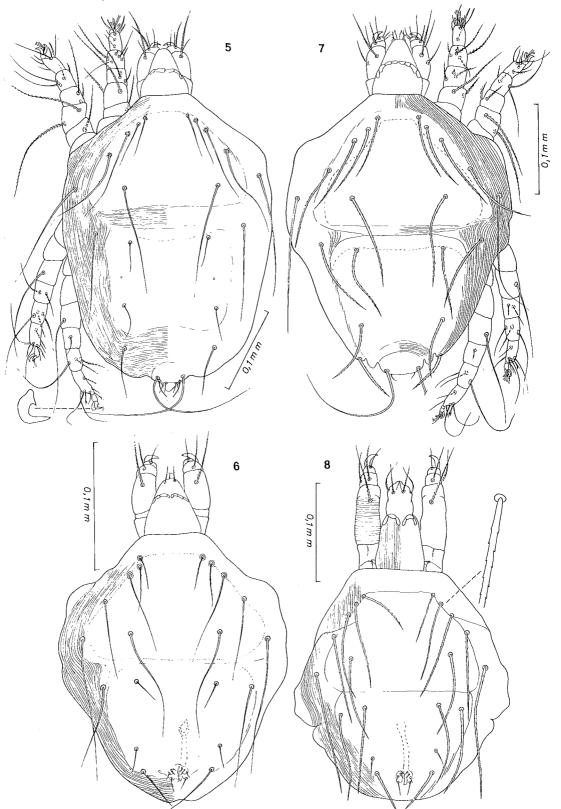
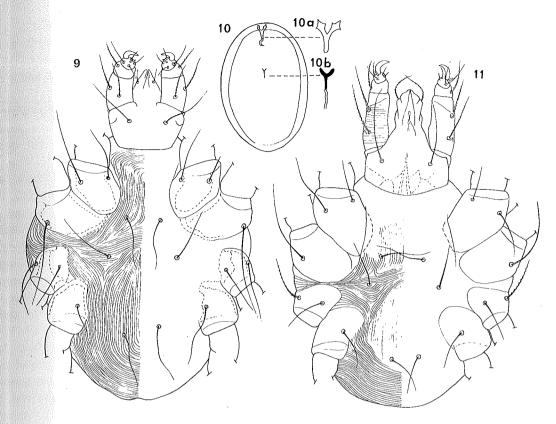


Fig. 1. Ornithocheyletia hallae similis Fain, 1972, female, dorsal view. Figs. 2-4. Ornithocheyletia geopeliae sp.nov. (2) Female, dorsal view; (3) Male, ventral view; (4) Male, dorsal view.



Figs. 5, 6. Ornithocheyletia psittaculae Fain, 1972. (5) Female, dorsal view; (6) Male, dorsal view. Figs. 7, 8. Ornithocheyletia psittaci psittaci Fain, 1972 (7) Female, dorsal view; (8) Male, dorsal view.



Figs. 9, 10. Ornithocheyletia psittaculae Fain, 1972. (9) Male, ventral view; (10, 10a, 10b) Egg with prelarva. Fig. 11. Ornithocheyletia psittaci psittaci Fain, 1972, male, ventral view.

plates are punctate without lines and are contiguous, 220 and 170 μ wide respectively. Tibiae III-IV with three setae. Solenidion of tibia I cylindricoconical 8-9 μ long (Fig. 42)

Homeomorphic male: With two large punctate dorsal shields. Venter striated without punctate plates. Setae l 4 120 μ long. Setae l 1 distinctly barbed (these setae are smooth in the original description).

Host: Host of the holotype Sturnus vulgaris, Moldavia, SSSR. Type in Academy of Sciences SSSR.

4. *Ornithocheyletia barri* Smiley, 1977 *Ornithocheyletia barri* Smiley, 1977: 234 (fig. 16-20)

This species is known only from the female and the holotype female of this species has been examined

for this study. It resembles very closely the description and the figures of *O. dubinini* given by Volgin, except that the two main dorsal plates are clearly separated from each other by four striations of the soft cuticle, whereas in *O. dubinini* these plates are contiguous and not separated by cuticular striations (Fig. 43).

This species was collected from the same host species (*Sturnus vulgaris*) as *O. dubinini*, but in North America. The holotype is in the USNM.

Ornithocheyletia lawrenceae Smiley, 1970
 Ornithocheyletia lawrenceae Smiley, 1970, p. 1065 (Figs. 22-25)

Cheletiella pinguis Womersley, 1941, p. 59 (Fig. 6) (non Cheyletiella pinguis Berlese, 1889)

I have examined the holotype female and a paratype male of this species, which are in the USNM Washington. They correspond with te description by Smiley.

Female (holotype) (Fig. 45): Total length 327 μ . The coxae III and IV bear conical or rounded spurs on their posterior margins. The tibiae III-IV bear three setae. All the dorsal setae are smooth. The setae d 5 are situated off the pygidial plate and are 51 μ apart. The sci much longer (110 μ) than ve (63 μ). The l 4 is 60 μ . Solenidion of tibia I cyclindricoconical, straight, 6 μ long. The male corresponds with the description by Smiley.

Host and locality: (i) On Parakeet, San Antonio, Texas, 16 October 1952. Holotype No. 3344, in USNM. (ii) According to Dr. S. Thewke, the specimens recorded by Womersley (1941) as Cheletiella pinguis Berlese from Platycercus elegans, Australia, belong in fact to O. lawrenceae (Mr. D.C. Lee, personal communication). Through the courtesy of Mr. Lee I was able to examine some of these specimens and I can confirm that this identification is correct.

Ornithocheyletia volgini Smiley, 1970
 Ornithocheyletia volgini Smiley, 1970, p. 1069
 (Figs. 28-31)

I have examined the hologype female and a paratype male.

Male homeomorphic (paratype): Dorsal plates covered with very thin longitudinal striations. Chaetotaxy as in the figures given by Smiley. Tibiae III-IV with three setae. Solenidion of tibia I as in the female.

Host: Petrochelidon pyrrhonota, in Wayne County, Ohio, USA. Holotype in IAC.

7. Ornithocheyletia gersoni Smiley, 1970 Ornithocheyletia gersoni Smiley, 1970, p. 1065 (Figs. 18-21)

I have examined the holotype female and a paratype male.

Female (holotype) (Fig. 40): I can confirm the description by Smiley, except that the h setae are not barbed, as depicted by Smiley, but smooth. Setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and l l barbed and 90μ , 75μ , 93 μ , 96 μ and 90 μ long respectively. Setae h, 14 and 15 smooth and 150 μ long, the d 1 smooth, 120 μ long. The 1 5 are off the pygidial plate and 57 μ apart. Pygidial plate 33 μ wide. Propodonotal and hysteronotal plates wider than long, the former is 93 μ long and 112 μ wide, the latter 78 μ long and 120 μ wide. Both plates are covered with very thin but distinct longitudinal lines. Pygidial plate without lines. Coxae III with two setae, the external barbed, the internal smooth. Tibiae III-IV with three setae. Basal half of coxae I-II with longitudinal or oblique striations. Solenidion of tibia I cylindrico-conical, straigth, 9-10 µ long; solenidion of genu I short, with apical half in broad oval. Total length, gnathosoma included, 300 μ , maximum width 195 μ .

Male homeomorphic (paratype): dorsal plates completely striated. Setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and l l very shortly barbed. Other characters as described and depicted by Smiley. The solenidion of tibia I is much shorter (3.6 μ long) than in the female and inflated apically. Tibiae III-IV with three setae.

Host: Dendrocopos pubescens, Wooster, USA. Holotype in IAC.

8. Ornithocheyletia hallae hallae Smiley, 1970 Ornithocheyletia hallae Smiley, 1970: 1068 (fig. 26-27); 1977: 229 (fig. 1-15)

I have seen the holotype female of this species and can confirm the original description. Total length 342 μ . The pygidial plate is 45 μ wide. Setae sc i, h, l 5 and d l smooth and 180 μ long. Setae v i, v e, sc e, l 1 barbed and 45-60 μ long. Setae l 5 33 μ apart. Tibiae III-IV with 3 setae. Solenidion of tibia I inflated in its middle part and about 5 μ long (Fig. 48).

There are two different types of males in this

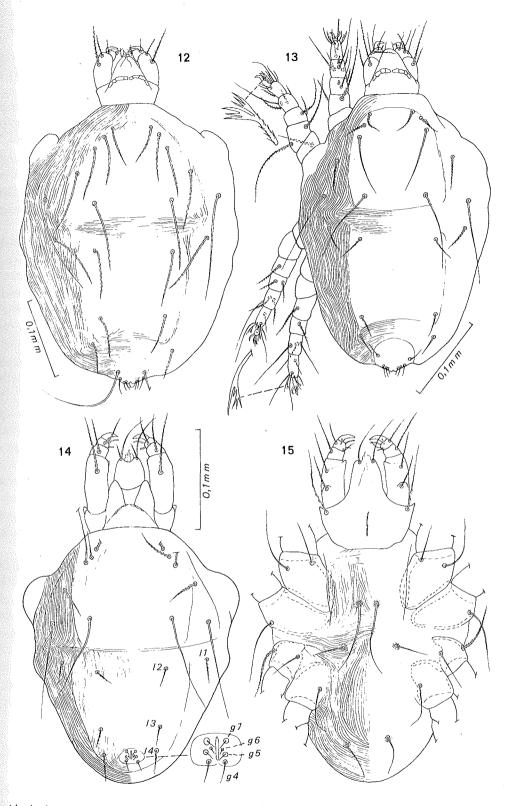


Fig. 12. Ornithocheyletia psittaci poicephali ssp.nov., female, dorsal view. Figs. 13-15. Ornithocheyletia francolini Fain, 1972. (13) 1 cmale, dorsal view; (14) Male, dorsal view; (15) Male, ventral view.

species, one normal, the other heteromorphic. In both males the ventral surface bears two median unstriated plates (Smiley, 1977).

Host and locality: Type series from a pigeon, Brownville, Texas, 15.VI.1962. Holotype, No. 3343 in USNM. Other specimens from barnyard pigeons, California. The species has also been recorded from Europe (Smiley, 1977). I have seen specimens from domestic pigeons from South Africa.

Ornithocheyletia hallae similis Fain, 1972 nov. stat. Ornihocheyletia similis Fain, p. 44

The comparison of *O. similis* with the type of *O. hallae* has shown that the former is merely a subspecies of the latter. The description of this form is completed below.

Female (fig. 1; 46): Idiosoma in holotype 340 μ long, 240 μ wide. Total length 385 μ . Size of dorsal plates: propodonotal 100 μ wide, hysteronotal 72 μ long and 100 μ wide, pygidial 26 μ long and 32 μ wide. Setae v i, v e, sc e and l l barbed and 40-50 μ long. All other setae smooth: sc i 140-150 μ , h, d l, l 5 150 μ . The l 5 are situated on the pygidial plate and are 25 μ apart. Ventral setae thin, smooth, except the external seta of coxa III which is barbed and much longer (100 μ) than the other coxals. Tibiae III-IV with 3 setae. Solenidion of tibia I straight 4,5 μ long; solenidion of genu I very small ovoidal.

Male: unknown.

Host and locality: On Chalcophas indica. This bird died in the Antwerp Zoo, a few days after its importation from Asia, 3.IX.1965. Holotype in IRSNB.

Remark: O. hallae similis differs from the typical form by the greater size of the body, the narrower shape of the pygidial plate and the shorter length of some dorsal setae.

9. Ornithocheyletia geopeliae sp.nov.

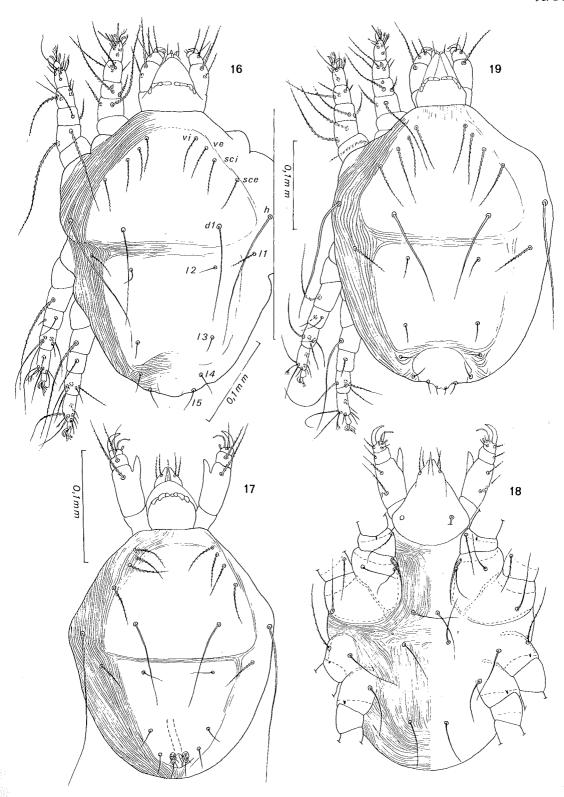
Female (Fig. 2; 47): Idiosoma in holotype 305 μ long and 218 μ wide. Total length in holotype 355 μ , in two paratypes 348 μ and 328 μ . Dorsum: size of plates: propodonotal 95 μ wide, hysteronotal 83 μ long and 103 μ wide, pygidial 36 μ wide. Setae v i,

Heteromorphic male (Figs. 3, 4): Idiosoma 178 μ long, 160 μ wide. Dorsum with two large, median, sclerotized and unstriated plates. Setae v i, v e, sc e and l l very thin, with very short barbs and 12 to 18 μ long. Other dorsal setae smooth: sc i 90 μ , h 150 μ , d l140 μ , l2 10 μ , l3 12 μ , l4 32-36 μ . The genital setae are smooth and thin, except g6 which is thick and barbed. Venter: with two median sclerotized and unstriated plates. Ventral setae as in the female but the ic l are slightly thicker than ic l2 and thicker and longer than l2. Gnathosoma very large (base 63 μ wide). Palps very strong, the palpfemur is enlarged dorsally in its middle part. Legs as in the female.

Host and locality: From Geopelia striata, 6.V. 1964. This bird died in Antwerp Zoo soon after its introduction. Holotype and four paratypes female, allotype and one paratype male. Holotype in IRSNB.

Remarks: This species presents, as O. hallae Smiley, very long and smooth sc i setae contrasting with the barbed and much shorter aspect of the v i, v e, sc e and l l setae. It differs from the latter in the female by the much greater relative length of the sc i setae which are about six times as long as v i, v e, sc e and l l and the much shorter length of the latter. The male differs by the very different shape of the gnathosoma and the relatively greater length of l d setae compared to l d.

10. Ornithocheyletia psittaculae Fain, 1972 Ornithocheyletia psittaculae Fain, 1972, p. 44 Female (Figs. 5, 54): Idiosoma in holotype 330 μ long and 250 μ wide. Total length 390 μ . A paratype is 363 μ long (total length) and 246 μ wide. Dorsum:



Figs. 16-18. Ornithocheyletia smileyi Fain, 1972. (16) Female, dorsal view; (17) Male, dorsal view; (18) Male, ventral view. Fig. 19. Ornithocheyletia argentinensis Fain, 1972, female, dorsal view.

propodonotal plate 190 μ wide; hysteronotal plate 114 μ long and 150 μ wide; pygidial plate 45 μ wide. All the dorsal setae are smooth; the v i, v e, sc i, sc e, d I and h are 39 μ , 54 μ , 105 μ , 110 μ , 120 μ and 140 μ long respectively. The l I, l d and l d are 105 d, 63 d, and 140-150 d long. The d d are situated on the pygidial plate, they are 30 d apart. d d are setae are thin and smooth. Base of gnathosoma 36 d d wide. Tibiae III-IV with three setae. Most of the leg setae are smooth or very shortly barbed. Solenidion of tibia I very short (4 d) and slightly curved; solenidion of genu I very small with apical part globular.

Male (Fig. 6, 9): This male is slightly heteromorphic. Idiosoma in allotype 225 μ long and 180 μ wide. Total length 270 μ . Dorsum with two large plates. All setae smooth except v i and v e shortly barbed; propodosomal h and l l setae as in female. The l d are 50 μ long. Venter: without median plates, the cuticle is striated; ventral and coxal setae as in the female. Gnathosoma relatively large, its base is 69 μ wide; palps strong. Legs: Tibiae III-IV with 3 setae. Solenidions as in female.

Egg (Fig. 10): Some eggs contain a prelarva. It consists of a membranous envelope bearing two sclerotized bifid ecdysing organs serving for the rupture of the eggshell.

Host and locality: From Psittacula krameri. This bird died in Antwerp Zoo a few days after its arrival, 2.VII.1963. Holotype female and 14 paratypes female; allotype and one paratype male, protonymphs and tritonymphs.

Remarks: O. psittaculae belongs with a group of five species presenting the 15 setae on the pygidial shield. O. psittaculae is distinguished from the five other species of this group by the smooth aspect of all the dorsal setae.

11. Ornithocheyletia psittaci psittaci Fain, 1972 Ornithocheyletia psittaci Fain, 1972, p. 43

Female (Figs. 7, 53): Idiosoma in holotype 308 μ long and 260 μ wide. Total length 365 μ . In two paratypes the total length is 405 μ and 390 μ . Dorsum: propodonotal plate 180 μ wide; hysteronotal plate 115 μ long and 150 μ wide; pygidial plate 50 μ wide. All dorsal setae are cylindrical,

thick and finely serrate except h and l 5 which are smooth. Length of setae: v i 70 μ ; v e 78 μ ; sc i 75 μ , sc e 93 μ ; h 150 μ ; d l 105 μ ; l l 90 μ ; l 285 μ ; l 375 μ ; l 4 48 μ ; l 5 160 μ . The l 5 are situated on the pygidial shield, they are 36 μ apart. The ic l, ic l 3 and ic l 4 and the coxal setae are smooth, except the external of coxa III which is finely barbed. Base of gnathosoma 68 μ wide. Tibiae III-IV with three setae. Some of the long setae of legs are thick. Solenidion of tibia I straight, l l long.

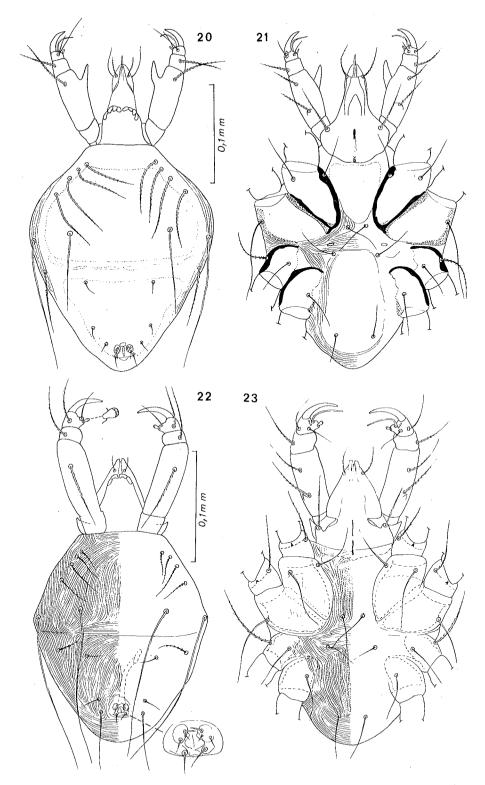
Heteromorphic male (Figs. 8, 11): Idiosoma in allotype 235 μ long and 220 μ wide. Dorsum: the two large plates are punctate and they bear very thin striations very poorly marked. Dorsal setae as in the female but the l 3 are thin and short (15 μ). Venter: coxae large. Median region between coxae striated without plates. Setae ic and coxal setae as in the female. Gnathosoma large, with base 93 μ wide and with long palps. The palpfemur is devoid of processes. Legs strong with the same chaetotaxy and solenidiotaxy as in female. Penis 63 μ long.

Host and locality: From Psittacus erithacus imported from Central Africa and which died in the Antwerp Zoo, 19.VI.1967. Holotype and two paratypes female; allotype and one paratype male; two protonymphs containing males, three protonymphs, one tritonymph, one larva, all paratypes. From the same host and place but on 6.VIII.1963 and 14.XII.1965: six females and three tritonymphs, all paratypes. Holotype in MRAC.

Remarks: (i) The mites were found in extensive mange lesions on the body of the birds. (ii) O. psittaci belongs to a group af five species which present the 15 setae on the pygidial plate. It differs from the other species of this group by the aspect of most of the dorsal setae which are thick, cylindrical and serrate.

Ornithocheyletia psittaci ssp. poicephali ssp.nov.

Female (Fig. 12): Idiosoma in the holotype 340 μ long and 260 μ wide. Total length 405 μ long. Dorsum: propodonotal plate 180 μ wide; hysteronotal plate 118 μ long and 144 μ wide; pygidial plate 40 μ wide. All the dorsal setae are cylindrical and serrate except h and l 5 which are smooth. Length of setae: v i 57 μ ; v e and s c i 60 μ ; s c e 78 μ ; h



Figs. 20, 21. Ornithocheyletia argentinensis Fain, 1972. (20) Male, dorsal view; (21) Male, ventral view. Figs. 22-23. Ornithocheyletia leiothrix Fain, 1972. (22) Male, dorsal view; (23) Male, ventral view.

120 μ ; d 1 81 μ ; l 1 75 μ ; l 2 66 μ ; l 3 51 μ ; l 4 36 μ ; l 5 105-115 μ . Setae l 5 situated on the pygidial plate and 32 μ apart. Venter: setae ic i, ic 3 and ic 4 very thin, smooth and subequal. Coxal setae smooth except external coxal III very finely serrate. Base of gnathosoma 75 μ wide. Legs and leg chaetotaxy as in O. psittaci. Solenidion tibial I thick and curved, 5 μ long; solenidion genual \pm 3-3,5 μ long, ovoidal with a narrow base. Claws thick.

Male: unknown.

Host and locality: From Poicephalus senegalus (Psittacidae), from Western Africa, 25.III.1966. Holotype female and only known specimen in MRAC.

Remark: This subspecies differs from the typical form by the distinctly shorter length of the dorsal setae, the body-length being equal or larger.

12. Ornithocheyletia francolini Fain, 1972 Ornithocheyletia francolini Fain, 1972 p. 44

Female (Figs. 13, 44): Idiosoma in the holotype 304 μ long and 195 μ wide. Total length 360 μ . In two paratypes these measurements (total length x width) are 340 $\mu \times 185 \mu$ and 344 $\mu \times 200 \mu$. Dorsum: propodonotal plate 108 μ wide; hysteronotal plate 98 μ long and 110 μ wide; pygidial plate 48 μ wide. Anterior and lateral parts of the two anterior plates with some very thin and indistinct striations. Setae v i, v e, sc e and l l barbed, 28-30 μ long. Other dorsal setae smooth. Setae sc i, d 1, $h 72 \mu$, 80μ and 100μ long respectively. Setae l2, 13 and 14 subequal 21-25 μ long, the 12 and 13 are very slightly serrate; l 5 very thin 16 μ long, situated on pygidial plate and 36 μ apart. Venter: setae ic 1 distinctly thicker and longer (75 μ) than ic 3 and ic 4 (38-45 μ). Coxal setae smooth except external seta of coxa III which is barbed. Base of gnathosoma 69 μ wide. Legs: tibiae III-IV with three setae. Solenidion of tibia I straight, cylindrical, 7 μ long; solenidion of genu I very small (4 μ long) and with apical half ovoid.

Heteromorphic male (Figs. 14, 15): Idiosoma in allotype 255 μ long and 195 μ wide. Dorsum with two large plates bearing in their lateral parts numerous very faint striations. Setae as in the female, but the setae l 4 are slightly serrate. Venter

completely striate, except the coxae. Setae ic and coxals as in the female. Gnathosoma very large, its base measured ventrally, is 90 μ wide. Palps very strong and long; palpfemur with a small apicointernal process. Leg chaetotaxy as in female.

Host and locality: From Francolinus natalensis, Waterpoort, N. Transvaal, South Africa, 14.VI. 1970 (Coll. F. Zumpt). Holotype and three paratypes female, allotype male. Holotype and allotype in MRAC; one paratype female in SAIMR; one paratype in the collection of the author.

Remark: The female of this species presents the l 5 setae situated on the pygidial plate as five other species in the genus. It differs from these species by the very short l 5 setae and the ic l being twice as long as the ic l - l - l l - l l - l l - l l - l - l l - l - l l - l

13. Ornithocheyletia smileyi Fain, 1972 Ornithocheyletia smileyi Fain, 1972, p. 45

Female (Figs. 16, 51): Idiosoma in holotype 315 μ long, 235 μ wide. Total length 360 μ . Dorsum: the plates are well sclerotized and not striated, propodosomal plate 120 μ long and 180 μ wide; hysterosomal plate 105 μ long and 150 μ wide; pygidial plate 15 μ long and 30 μ wide and without setae. Setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and 1 I barbed and 40 μ , 36 μ , 38 μ and 39 μ long respectively; other setae smooth. Length of other setae : h 160 μ ; d 1 100 μ ; l 2, l 3 and 1418μ ; 1530μ . Setae 15 are 48μ apart and situated on soft cuticle off the pygidial plate. Venter striated; coxae without striations. All the coxal setae are smooth. Setae ic 1, ic 3, ic 4 smooth, subequal. Base of gnathosoma 75 μ wide. Palpfemur and palpgenu with only barbed setae. Legs well developed. Trochanters I-II with an anteroventral rounded and flattened process. Leg chaetotaxy as described for genus but tibiae III and IV bear four setae. Solenidion of tibia I 5-6 μ long.

Heteromorphic male (Figs. 17, 18): Idiosoma 225 μ long and 180 μ wide; total length 270 μ . Dorsum with two large unstriated plates; setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and l l barbed, and 30 μ , 30 μ , 30 μ , 34 μ and 30 μ long. Other setae smooth: h 150 μ ; d l 82 μ ; the l 2, l 3 and l 4 are 15-18 μ and very thin. Venter striated without median plates. All the coxal setae are smooth except external coxal III which is

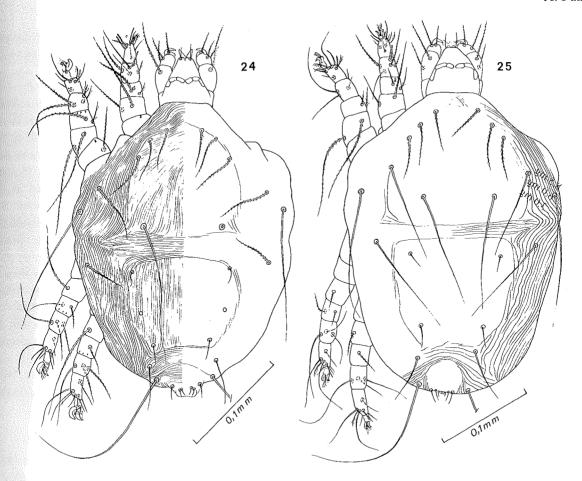


Fig. 24. Ornithocheyletia leiothrix Fain, 1972, female, dorsal view. Fig. 25. Ornithocheyletia eulabes sp.nov., female, dorsal view.

barbed. Gnathosoma much stronger than in female with longer and stronger palp; palpfemur with a strong apico-internal conical process. Base of gnathosoma 72 μ wide. Chaetotaxy of legs as in female.

Host and locality: Holotype female and allotype heteromorphic male, from Myiopsitta monachus, which died in Antwerp Zoo after a short captivity, 19.IV.1967. Holotype in IRSNB.

Remarks: (i) This species is clearly distinguished from the other species in the genus by the presence of four setae on tibiae III-IV, instead of three setae in all the other species. (ii) These mites were found in mange-like lesions on the wings.

14. Ornithocheyletia argentinensis Fain, 1972

pygidial plate but very close to its. *Venter*: setae *ic I*, *ic* 3, *ic* 4 subequal, thin and smooth. Base of gnathosoma 68 μ wide. Leg chaetotaxy: tibiae I-IV with 4-4-4 setae. Other segments as mentioned in definition of genus. The trochanters I-II bear a rounded anteroventral process as in *O. smilevi*.

Heteromorphic male (Figs. 20-21): The two males were collected from Forpus passerinus. Idiosoma in the allotype 225 μ long an 170 μ wide. These males are heteromorphic with long and strong palps and a broad gnathosomal base. The two dorsal shields are very large covering almost completely the dorsum. Setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and l l with short barbs and 55 μ , 60 μ , 70 μ , 66 μ , 60 μ and 60 μ long respectively; d l 90 μ ; h 145 μ ; l 2, l 3, l 4 very thin and short (12 μ). Venter with two large median plates without striations. Coxae with thick apodemes. The ic setae are thin, subequal and smooth. Base of gnathosoma: 69 μ wide, its total length is 100 μ . Palps very long, the palpfemur with a strong internal conical process in its apical half.

Host and locality: (i) Holotype and two female paratypes from Nandays nanday, 8.IX.1964. This bird died in the Antwerp Zoo, a few days after its importation from South America. (ii) Allotype and two paratypes male, three paratypes female from Forpus passerinus, 26.VI.1965. This bird died in Antwerp soon after its importation. Types in IRSNB.

Remark: This species presents four setae on tibiae III-IV as in O. smileyi. It is distinguished from this species in the female by the much greater size of the pygidial plate, the greater length of most of the dorsal setae, and the much greater distance between 15 setae. The male differs from that of O. smileyi by the presence on the venter of two large median unstriated plates and by the different shape of the gnathosoma.

Ornithocheyletia lukoschusi Smiley, 1970
 Ornithocheyletia lukoschusi Smiley, 1970, p. 1069 (Figs. 32-35)

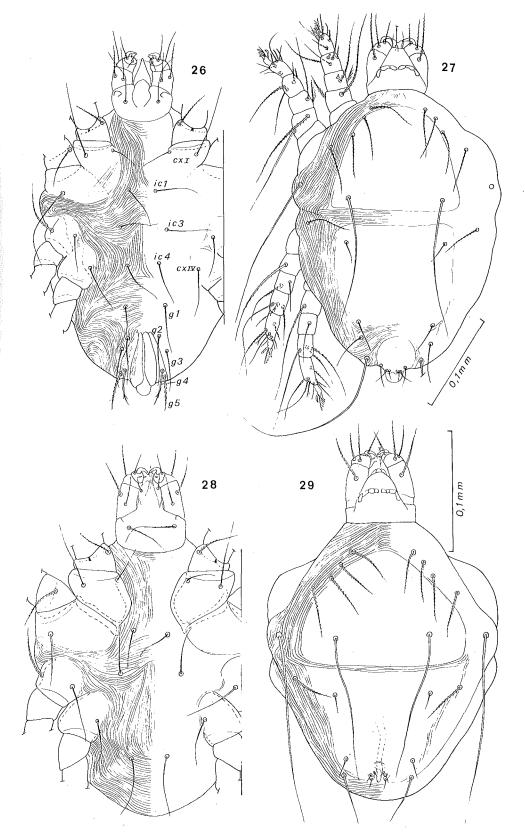
I have examined the holotype female and a paratype male. The *holotype* is 305 μ long (total length) and 180 μ wide (Smiley gives a total length of 253 μ). The three dorsal plates are striated longitudin-

The *male* is homeomorphic. It is 246 μ long and 149 μ wide. Dorsal plates completely striated. Dorsal setae as in the female, except that l 5 is lacking. The l 3 and l 4 are thin and 12 μ and 25 μ long. Coxae striated as in female. Solenidions of tibia and genu I as in the female.

Host and locality: From Hirundo rustica, Nijmegen, Nederland. Holotype and paratype male in Natural Museum of Leiden, Nederland.

16. Ornithocheyletia leiothrix Fain, 1972 Ornithocheyletia leiothrix Fain, 1972, p. 45

Female (Figs. 24, 36): Idiosoma in holotype 270 μ long and 195 μ wide. Total length 308 μ . Total length and width in four paratypes: 330 $\mu \times 198 \mu$; 328 μ + 215 μ ; 318 μ × 196 μ and 310 μ × 205 μ . Dorsum: Propodonotal plate 102 μ wide; hysteronotal plate 80 μ long and 96 μ wide; pygidial plate 30 μ wide. These three plates are completely striated, mostly longitudinally except in pygidial plate where the striations are transverse. Setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and 11 barbed and 38 μ , 42 μ , 45 μ , 50-55 μ and 30 μ long respectively. Other setae smooth, the d 1, h and 15 are 120 μ , 135 μ and 150 μ long respectively, the 1 4 are 39 μ long. The 1 5 are situated off the pygidial plate and are 51 μ apart. Venter: Setae ic 1, ic 3 and ic 4 smooth, subequal: coxal setae smooth except lateral seta of coxa III which is barbed. Base of gnathosoma 51 μ wide. Legs: Tibiae III-IV with three setae. Solenidion of tibia I cylindrico-conical, slightly curved, and 13 μ long; solenidion of genu I very short with apical half globular. Claws thick.



Figs. 26-29. Ornithocheyletia aitkeni Fain, 1972. (26) Female, ventral view; (27) Female, dorsal view; (28) Male, ventral view; (29) Male, dorsal view.

Heteromorphic male (Figs. 22, 23): Idiosoma in allotype 186 μ long and 150 μ wide. Dorsum with two plates completely striate and very poorly sclerotized. Setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and l 1 barbed and 20-36 μ long. Other setae smooth; the d I and h 120 μ and 140 μ long; the 14 are 55-60 μ long. Venter as in female except that the striations in the median region are punctate. Base of gnathosoma 83 μ wide. Ventrally the gnathosoma is divided into two parts, a triangular anterior part approximately as wide as long and a rectangular posterior part, wider than long, the parts being separated by a deep incision. Palps very long, the palpfemur is 70 μ long and is devoid of processes; the palptarsus bears an apical modified spine thickened and curved apically; the palptibial apical spine (= palpal claw) is thin and 30 μ long. Legs, leg chaetotaxy and solenidiotaxy as in female. Three paratypes correspond with the allotype. In 11 other paratypes the gnathosoma is smaller (base 50-70 μ wide, palpfemur 45 to 55 μ long) but the other characters are the same as in the allotype, except in one specimen where the d1 setae are shorter (60 μ). Homeomorphic males have not been observed.

Host and locality: From Leiothrix lutea, 19.VI. 1967. This bird died in the Antwerp Zoo soon after its importation from Eastern Asia. Holotype and three paratypes female, allotype and three paratypes make, immatures. From the same bird and origin on 3.XII.1962 (one female and 11 male, paratypes). Holotype and allotype in IRSNB.

Remark: This species presents, as in O. luko-schusi, the dorsal plates completely striate. It differs from the latter in the female by the greater length of setae d 1 and sc e, the presence of transverse striations on the pygidial plate, the much longer solenidion of tibia I and the inflated aspect of solenidion of genu I. The male differs from that of O. lukoschusi by the greater length of 1 4 and d 1.

17. Ornithocheyletia eulabes sp.nov.

Female (Figs. 25, 37): Idiosoma 316 μ long and 228 μ wide. Total lenght 364 μ . Dorsum: Propodonotal plate 150 μ wide; hysteronotal plate 110 μ long and 120 μ wide; pygidial plate 36 μ wide. Setae ν i, ν e and sc i barbed and 40 to 48 μ long. All the

other setae are smooth: $sc\ e$ and $l\ l\ 105\ \mu$ long; $d\ l\ 120\ \mu$; $h\ 135\ \mu$; $l\ 4\ 50\ \mu$; $l\ 5$ very long (180\ μ) and 51\ μ apart. Venter: Setae ic and coxals thin and smooth except external coxal III which is barbed. Base of gnathosoma 63\ μ wide. Leg with the usual number of setae, the tibiae III-IV bear three setae. Solenidion of tibia I straight, cylindrical, $l\ 4\ \mu$ long; solenidion of genu I with apical two thirds ovoid, total length 2,5\ μ , maximum width 1,3\ μ . Claws of legs relatively small.

Male: unknown.

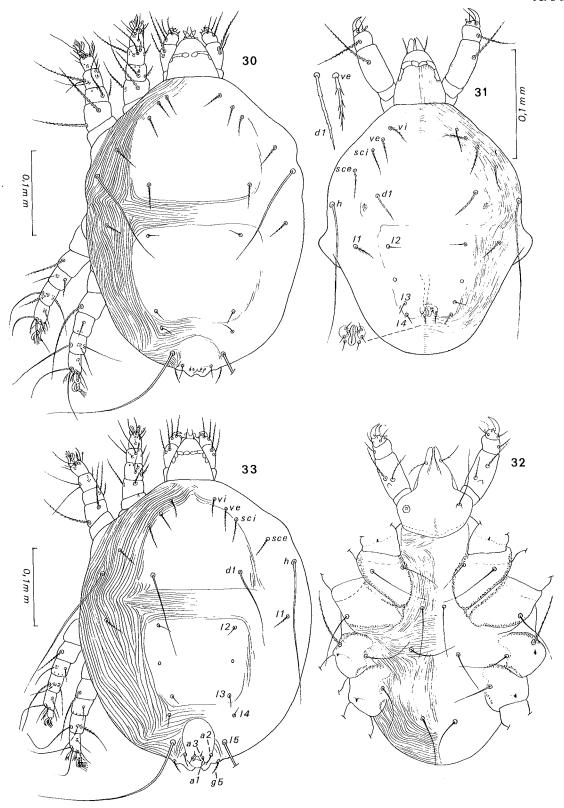
Host and locality: From Eulabes javana. This bird died in the Antwerp Zoo, 13.III.1964, a few days after its importation from Asia. This species represented only by the holotype, which is in IRSNB.

Remark: This species differs from all the other species in the genus by the shape of the $sc\ e$ and $l\ I$ setae which are smooth and long compared with the setae $v\ i$, $v\ e$ and $sc\ i$ which are barbed and much shorter.

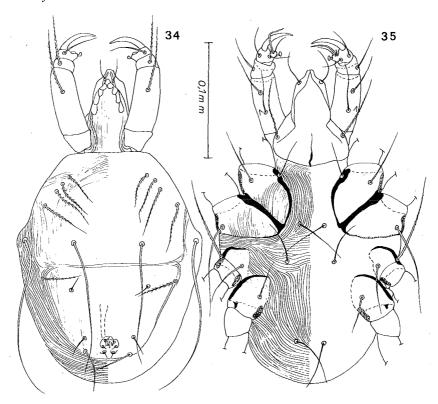
18. Ornithocheyletia aitkeni Fain, 1972 Ornithocheyletia aitkeni Fain, 1972, p. 46

Female (Figs. 26, 27, 52): Idiosoma in the holotype 282 μ long and 212 μ wide. Total length 325 μ . Total length in 1 paratype 333 μ . Dorsal plate : propodonotal 130 μ wide, hysteronotal 93 μ long and 120 μ wide, pygidial 36 μ wide. Setae v i, v e, sc e and 1 1 barbed and subequal (45-48 μ). All other dorsal setae smooth : $d 1 135 \mu$, $h 150 \mu$, $l 2 15 \mu$, l 325-35 μ , 14 35 μ and 15 165 μ . The 15 are situated off the pygidial plate and are 54 μ apart. Venter: setae ic 1, ic 3 and ic 4 subequal and very thin; coxal setae smooth except external seta of coxa III which is barbed. Base of gnathosoma 60 μ wide. Legs: The dorsal setae are long; tibiae III and IV with 3 setae. Solenidion of tibia I curved, 6 µ long; solenidion of genu I 3,2 μ to 3,6 μ long and subcylindrical.

Homeomorphic male (Figs. 28, 29): Idiosoma in allotype 222 μ long and 181 μ wide. Another male, also homeomorphic, is 210 μ long and 170 μ wide. Dorsum: there are two large, unstriated plates. Setae shorter than in the female except h, l 3, and l 4 which are the same length as in the female. Venter striated without median plates; coxals as in the



Figs. 30-32. Ornithocheyletia garrulax Fain, 1972. (30) Female, dorsal view; (31) Male, dorsal view; (32) Male, ventral view. Fig. 33. Ornithocheyletia lepidus sp.nov., female, dorsal view.



Figs. 34, 35. Ornithocheyletia granatina Fain, 1972. (34) Male, dorsal view; (35) Male, ventral view.

female. Gnathosoma as in the female, its base is 57 μ wide. Legs and solenidions as in the female. Penis 45-48 μ long.

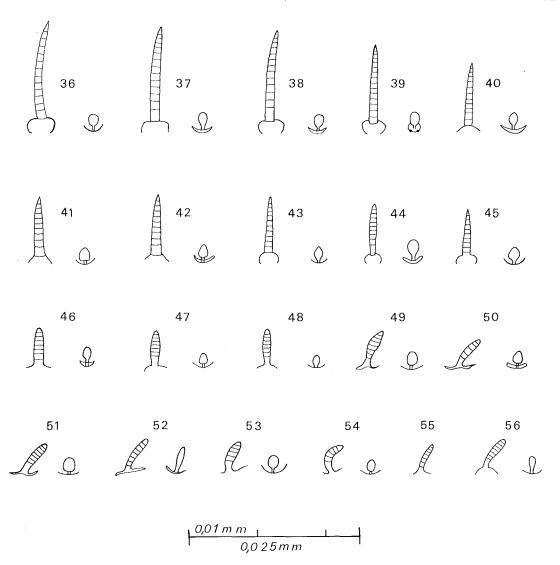
Host and locality: On Turdus fumigatus, from Ecological Research of Guama, Brazil, 1969 (Coll. T.H.G. Aitken). Holotype and two paratypes female; allotype and four paratypes male; one protonymph. Holotype in the USNM.

Remarks: (i) The mites were recovered from filamentous material covering the skin of the body of the bird. (ii) This species is clearly distinguished from the other species by a combination of characters as mentioned in the key.

19. Ornithocheyletia garrulax Fain, 1972

Ornithocheyletia garrulax Fain, 1972, p. 46 Female (Figs. 30, 41): Idiosoma in the holotype 338 μ long and 255 μ wide. Total length 395 μ . Dorsum: propodonotal plate 153 μ wide; hysteronotal plate 105 μ long and 155 μ wide; pygidial

Heteromorphic male (Figs. 31, 32): Idiosoma in the allotype 220 μ long and 175 μ wide. Total length 290 μ . Dorsum: propodonotal plate 84 μ long and 135 μ wide; hysteronotal plate 80 μ long and approximately 100 μ wide. The lateral parts of these plates bear numerous very thin and indistinct striations. Setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and l l barbed, 18 to 27 μ long. Setae d l 28 μ long, serrate. Other setae



Figs. 36-56. Solenidions of tibia I (to the left) and genu I (to the right) in the females of: (36) Ornithocheyletia leiothrix; (37) O. eulabes; (38) O. lepidus; (39) O. granatina; (40) O. gersoni; (41) O. garrulax; (42) O. dubinini (from Sturnus vulgaris in Holland); (43) O. barri; (44) O. francolini; (45) O. lawrenceae; (46) O. hallae similis; (47) O. geopeliae; (48) O. hallae hallae; (49) O. argentinensis; (50) O. lamprocolius; (51) O. smileyi; (52) O. aitkeni; (53) O. psittaci psittaci; (54) O. psittaculae; (55) O. volgini; (56) O. lukoschusi. (All from the holotypes except no. 42.)

smooth, the l2 to l4 being very thin and short; the h are 135 μ long. The *venter* is striated, without plates. Coxal and ic setae as in female. Chaetotaxy of legs as in female. Gnathosoma large with base 72 μ wide, bearing ventrally a pair of long setae placed on a short stalk. Palps strong and long, especially the palpfemur which is devoid of processes.

Host and locality: On the skin of Garrulax leucolophus bicolor. This bird died in the Antwerp Zoo, 20.V.1966, soon after its importation. Holotype and one paratype female, allotype and one paratype male, three nymphs and one larva, eggs. One of these nymphs (a protonymph) contains a fully developed male. Types in IRSNB.

Remark: This species differs from all the other species in the genus in both sexes by the aspect of the d 1 setae, which are short and serrate.

20. Ornithocheyletia lepidus sp.nov.

This species is known only from the holotype female.

Female (Figs. 33, 38): Idiosoma 525 μ long, 285 μ wide. Total length 585 μ. Dorsum: propodonotal plate 140 μ wide; hysteronotal plate 105 μ and 135 μ wide; pygidial plate 45 μ wide. The anterior part of the propodonotal plate bears very faint striations close to one another. Setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and l 1 barbed 21-27 μ long, other dorsal setae smooth, the d 1, h and 1 5 are 110 μ , 175 μ and 175 μ long respectively. Setae 1 5 66 μ apart. Venter: setae ic and coxals thin and smooth except lateral seta of coxa III which is thicker and barbed. Coxal margins poorly sclerotized. Gnathosomal base 65 μ wide. Legs with the usual number of setae, the tibiae III-IV with three setae. Tibia I with a very slightly curved cylindrico-conical solenidion 12 μ long; genu I with a very small globular solenidion (diameter 1.3 μ).

Male: unknown

Host and locality: Holotype from Garrulax leucolophus bicolor. This bird died in the Antwerp Zoo, 20.V.1966, a few days after its importation. Type in IRSNB.

Remark: This species is close to the species of the group "aitkeni". It differs from them by much shorter 1 4, v i, v e, sc i, sc e and 1 1 setae.

21. Ornithocheyletia lamprocolius Fain, 1972

Ornithochevletia lamprocolius Fain, 1972, p. 45 Female (Fig. 50): Idiosoma in holotype 390 μ long and 285 μ wide. Total length in holotype 435 μ , in the paratype 450 μ . Dorsum: the plates are sclerotized but the two anterior plates bear very thin and almost indistinguishable striations. Propodonotal plate 120 μ wide, hysteronotal plate 100 μ long and 115 μ wide, pygidial plate 36 μ wide. Setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and l 1 barbed and 42 to 45 μ long. All other dorsal setae are smooth: d1, h and l 5, 150 μ long; 15 are off the pygidial plate and 69 μ apart; 14 longer (63 μ) than the 12 (18 μ)and the 13 (25-30 μ). Venter: all the setae very thin and smooth except the external seta of coxa III which is barbed. Setae ic subequal. Base of gnathosoma 63 μ wide. Legs with long dorsal setae; tibiae III-IV with three setae. Solenidion of tibia I curved, 5 μ long; solenidion of genu I ovoidal, 2.5 μ long.

Male: unknown.

Host and locality: On Lamprocolius chloropterus, Central Africa, 20.III.1967. Holotype and one paratype female on the same slide, deposited in MRAC.

Remarks: This species belongs to the "aitkeni" group containing two other species, O. aitkeni and O. granatina. It is distinguished from O. aitkeni by the greater size of the body, the greater length of 14 setae, the presence of striations on the two anterior dorsal plates and the inflated aspect of the solenidion of genua I. It differs from O. granatina by the presence of striations on the dorsal shields, by the straight and much shorter aspect of the solenidion of tibia I and the narrower shape of the pygidial plate but the wider shape of the propodonotal plate.

Ornithocheyletia granatina Fain, 1972, p. 46

22. Ornithocheyletia granatina Fain, 1972

Female (Fig. 39): Idiosoma in holotype 339 μ long, 260 μ wide. Total length in holotype 385 μ , in two paratypes 375 μ and 358 μ . Dorsum: the plates are sclerotized without striations. Propodonotal plate 105 μ wide; hysteronotal plate 86 μ long and 100 μ wide; pygidial plate 43 μ wide. Setae v i, v e, sc i, sc e and l l barbed and 38-42 μ long. Other setae smooth. Setae d 1, h and l 5 140 μ , 150 μ and 165 μ long respectively; 15 are off the pygidial plate and 67 μ apart; 12 15 μ , 13 21 μ , 14 42 μ . Venter: coxae III-IV poorly developed; coxal and ic setae as in O. lamprocolius. Base of gnathosoma 50 μ wide. Legs and leg chaetotaxy as in L. lamprocolius. Claws thick. Solenidion of tibia I cylindrico-conical straight or very slightly incurved, 12 μ long; solenidion of genu I very small 2.5 u long.

Heteromorphic male (Figs. 34, 35): Idiosoma in allotype 195 μ long, 160 μ wide. Dorsum with two large sclerotized and striated plates; chaetotaxy as in the female but slightly shorter. Venter: setae ic and coxals as in female. The coxae I-II with thick margins. Penis 36 μ long, 3 μ wide in its median part. Legs as in the female. Gnathosoma strongly developed recalling that of O. leiothrix and 72 μ wide at its base. In another less heteromorphic male the gnathosoma is much smaller, its base only 57 μ

wide and the palps shorter. This male is 210 μ long (idiosoma).

Host and locality. From Granatina ianthinogaster. This bird died in the Antwerp Zoo, soon after its importation (28.IX.1965). Holotype and two paratypes female, allotype and two paratypes males, all heteromorphic; nymphs. Holotype and allotype in IRSNB.

Acknowledgements

We thank the Colleagues who have sent us the type material necessary for our study: Prof. D. Johnston, Institute of Acarology, Ohio, USA, Dr. H. Levi, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard, USA, Dr. F.S. Lukoschus, University of Nijmegen, the Netherlands and Mr. R. Smiley, Department of Agriculture, Washington, USA.

We also thank Mr. D.C. Lee, Senior Curator, South Australian Museum, Adelaide, who provided us with information about Womersley's material.

References

Baker, E.W. (1949) A review of the mites of the family Cheyletidae in the United States National Museum. *Proceedings of the United States National Museum* **99**, 267–232.

- Banks, N. (1909) New Canadian Mites. Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington, 7, 133-142.
- Berlese A. (1889) Acari, Myriapoda et Scorpiones hucusque in Italia reperta. Portici et Padua, 56, 3-4.
- Fain, A. (1972) Notes sur les Acariens des familles Cheyletidae et Harpyrhchidae producteurs de gale chez le Oiseaux ou les Mammifères. Acta Zoologica et Pathologica Antverpiensia, 56, 37-60.
- Fain, A. (1979) Idiosomal and leg chaetotaxy in the Cheyletidae. *International Journal of Acarology*, **5**, 305–310.
- Oudemans, A.C. (1906) Révision des Cheyletines. Mémoires de la Société Zoologique de France, 19, 36-218 (figs. 1-66).
- Smiley, R.L. (1970) A review of the family Cheyletiellidae (Acarina). Annals of the Entomological Society of America, 63, 1056–1078.
- Smiley, R.L. (1977) Further studies on the family Cheyletiellidae (Acarina). *Acarologia*, **19**, 225–241.
- Summers, F. M. & Price, D.W. (1970) Review of the family Cheyletidae. *University of California Publications in Entomology*, Vol. 61, 1–153.
- Volgin, V.I. (1964) [On the taxonomy of predatory mites of the family Cheyletidae VI. The genus *Ornithocheyletia* Volgin gen. nov.] *Zoologischeskii Zhurnal*, **43**, 28–36 (In Russian).
- Volgin, V.I. (1969) [Acarina of the family Cheyletidae, World Fauna Akademia Nauk S.S.S.R Opredeliteli Po Faune SSSR Zoologicheskii Institut, No. 101, 1–432 (Figs. 1–533) (In Russian).
- Womersley, H. (1941) Notes on the Cheyletidae (Acarina, Trombidoidea) of Australia and New Zealand, with descriptions of new species. *Records of the South Australian Museum*, 7, 51–64.

Accepted for publication 31st May, 1980.