

A new tydeid mite, *Tydeus longichelus* sp. n. from Egypt (Acari, Tydeidae)¹⁾

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(With 1 figure)

A b s t r a c t

A new tydeid mite, *Tydeus longichelus* is described and illustrated. It was found in soil with roots of the plant *Coriandrum* at Dokki, Co. Cairo.

I n t r o d u c t i o n

During our survey of the acarina fauna inhabiting soil with the roots of various crops, several new species of the family Tydeidae were recorded.

Tydeids are encountered in moss, litter, straw, soil or humus, fungi, bird-nests, on plants and stored products, (Marchall, 1970).

The paper deals with a new species of *Tydeus* found in soil with roots of the plant *Coriandrum* from Egypt.

The generic concepts and the terminology follows André (1980 & 1981a & b).

Genus *Tydeus* Koch 1836, sensu André 1980
Tydeus longichelus sp. n. (Figs 1A-E)

Female (Fig. 1A): Length 228-230 µm, width 145-148 µm. Prodorsum recurved, with almost longitudinal striae except for small transverse area on the anterior portion. Hysterosoma with almost transverse striae, except between d2 setae where longitudinal. Striae vague and without lobes. All dorsal body setae, except for the sensory ones, lanceolate and faintly serrate. Sensory setae slender, whip-like. Setal arrangement as follows: p1-p3 subequal in length, 17 µm; s: 35 µm; d1 and d2 subequal, 18.5 µm; d3: 16 µm; d4: 17 µm; d5: 16 µm; L1: 17 µm; L4: 16 µm; L5: 14 µm; h2: 12 µm.

Ventrum with three pairs of ventral setae, four pairs of paragenital and six pairs of genital setae (Fig. 1B). All legs with claws and empodium, legs setal pattern as follow: I: 7(1) - 4 - 3 - 3 - 1 - 2, II: 6(1) - 2 - 2 - 3 - 0 - 1, III: 5 - 2 - 1 - 2 - 1 - 3, IV: 5 - 2 - 1 - 1 - 0 - 1 (Fig. 1C). Epimeral formulae: 3 - 1 - 4 - 2 -. Solenidion 1 long and slender, solenidion 2 short. Empodium without claws.

¹⁾This work was carried out as parts of the project of biological control of roots diseases by Mycorrhizae.

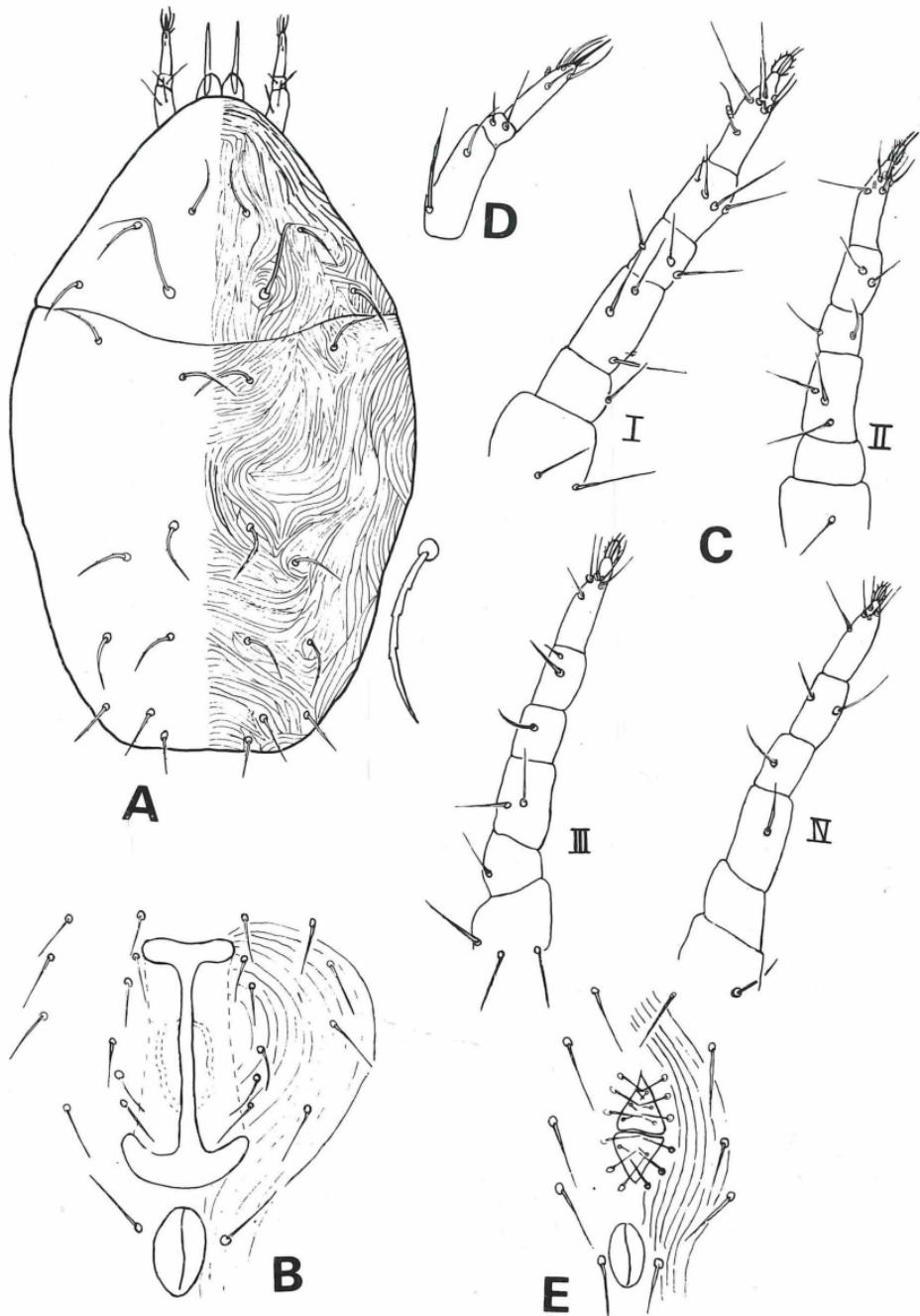


Fig. 1: *Tydeus longichelus* sp. n., female. - Body dorsum (A), genital region (B), chaetotaxy of legs I-IV (C), palp (D), genital region of male (E).

Gnathosoma partially hidden from above with the exception of the palpi; palpus setal pattern 2 - 2 - 6 + w (Fig. 1D). All setae simple and nude except the terminal which is broader. Movable chelae of the chelicerae longer (22 µm) than the palp tarsus (19 µm).

Male: Similar to female except for genital region (Fig. 1E) which has four pairs of paragenital, six pairs of genital and four pairs of eugenital setae.

Holotype: A female collected from soil with roots of the Coriandrum plant, (*Coriander sativa*), February 1988, Cairo, Egypt.

Paratypes: Five females and three males with the same data. The holotype, 1 male paratype and 1 nymph, deposited in Zoologisches Institut und Zoologisches Museum Hamburg, Bundesrepublik Deutschland, the remaining paratypes in the National Research Centre, Plant Protection Department, Dokki, Cairo, Egypt.

Remarks: *Tydeus longichelus* is distinct in having 7 setae on tarsus 1, long movable chelae and vague striae. This feature, together with faintly serrated setae, separates it from all other known congeners.

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