

ON THE MORPHOLOGICAL "VARIATION" ON THE AEDAEGUS
OF *Schizotetranychus oryzae* (ACARI, PROSTIGMATA,
TETRANYCHIDAE).*

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RESUMO

Sobre a "variação" morfológica do edêago de *Schizotetranychus oryzae* (Acari, Prostigmata, Tetranychidae).

Apresenta-se uma nota sobre a ocorrência do ácaro do arroz, *Schizotetranychus oryzae* Rossi de Simons, No Brasil, com observações sobre a "variação" morfológica do edêago do macho desta espécie de ácaro.

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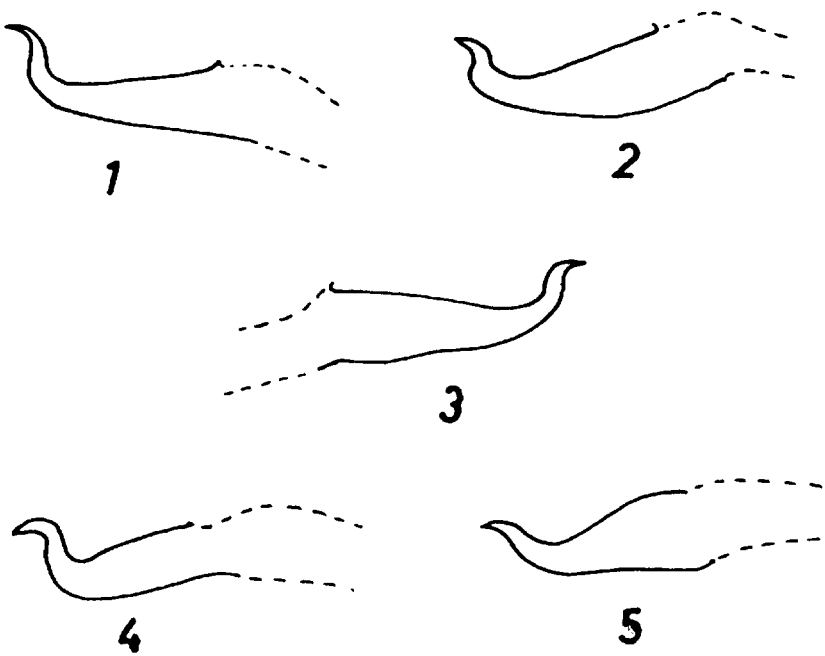
Schizotetranychus oryzae Rossi de Simons, 1966 - Rev. Investig. Agrop., INTA, Ser. 5, 3(1):1-10.

S. oryzae, a potential pest of rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) was described from Corrientes, Argentina and from Rio Grande do Sul, Brasil. ROSSETO et alii (1971) reported it from the State of São Paulo and BARCELLOS et alii (1979) in the States of Rio de Janeiro and Espírito Santo, Brasil.

Outbreaks of this mite have been observed during dry spells, in the rice culture, infested leaves present small chlorotic areas visible from above; a certain amount of webbing on the lower leaf surface.

From material collected in Rio de Janeiro and Espírito Santo and from a recent outbreak in Santa Fé do Sul, São Paulo, several microscopic preparations were made and examined. The specimens agreed in all morphological aspects with the original description given by Rossi de Simons, except in the shape of the aedaeagus. Since characteristics of the aedaeagus are the most important single male characters and since many published figures suggest the possibility that the variability results from viewing the aedaeagus at angles not quite perpendicular to the median plane (BOUDREAUX & DOSSE, 1963), several males were studied and their aedaeagi figured.

Figures 1 and 4 were obtained from near perfect lateral mountings, which clearly indicate that the axis of the stem of the aedaeagus is at a right angle to the axis of shaft; figures 2, 3 and 5 represent the aedaeagus of *S. oryzae* as seen in a somewhat tilted position, which is supposed to be the one given in the original description.



Figures 1 - 5. *Schizotetranuchus oryzae* Rossi de Somons, male, aedeagi. 1, 4 - in near perfect lateral view; 2, 3, 5 - in lateral but somewhat tilted position.

LITERATURE CITED

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